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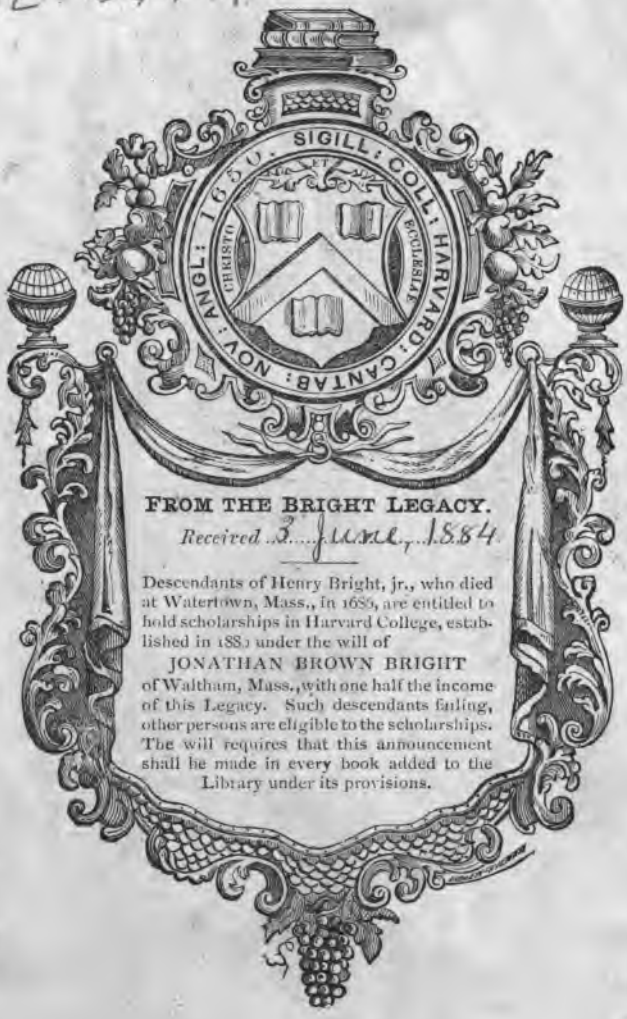


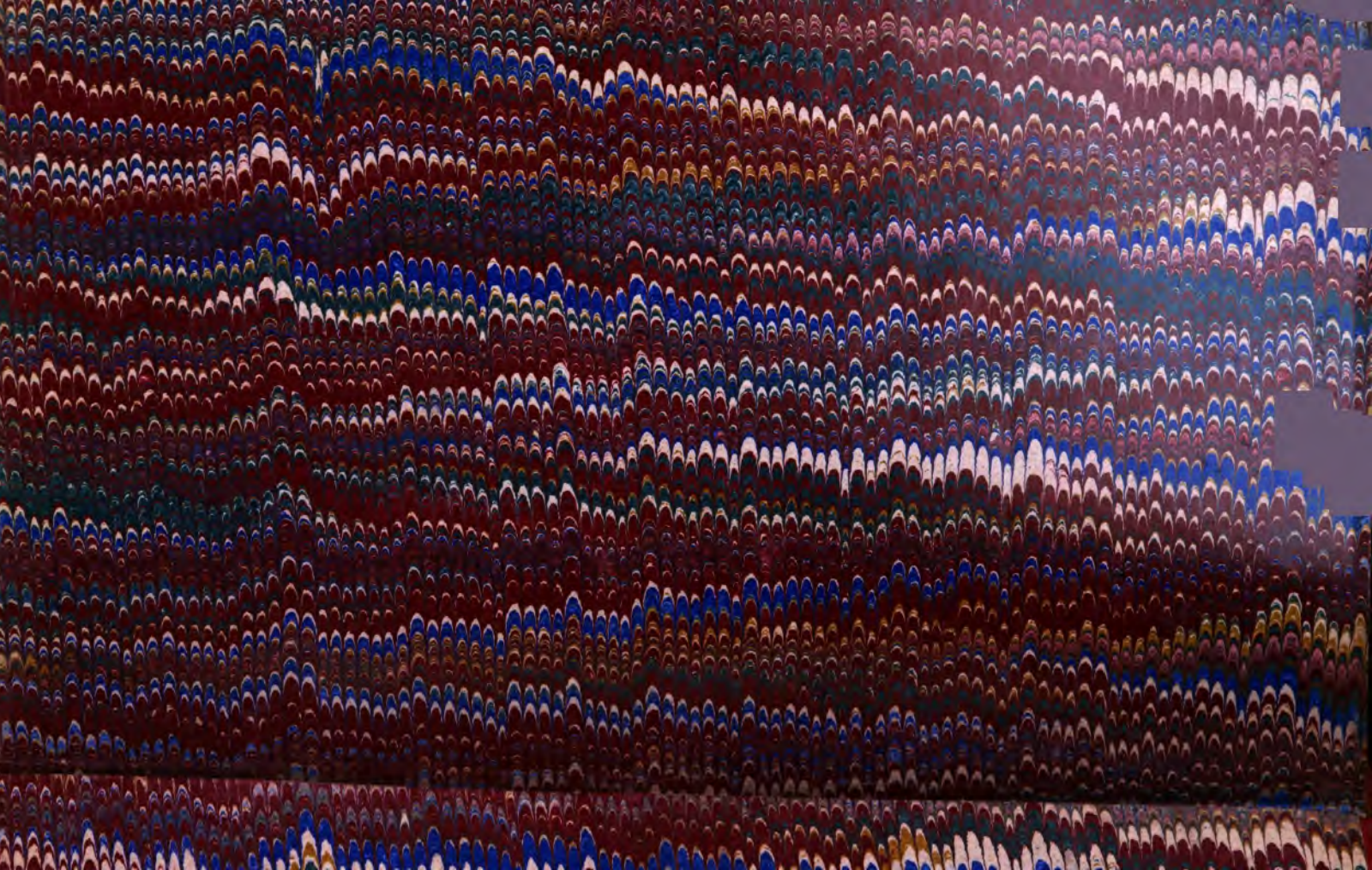
FROM THE BRIGHT LEGACY.

Received 3 June, 1884

Descendants of Henry Bright, jr., who died at Watertown, Mass., in 1689, are entitled to hold scholarships in Harvard College, established in 1880 under the will of

JONATHAN BROWN BRIGHT

of Waltham, Mass., with one half the income of this Legacy. Such descendants failing, other persons are eligible to the scholarships. The will requires that this announcement shall be made in every book added to the Library under its provisions.



MONTHLY NOTES

OF

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

UNITED KINGDOM.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

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VOL. 4. NO 1.] [*January* 15, 1883.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—January Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, "The Distribution of Public Documents to Libraries in the United States"—The New Bodleian Cataloguing Rules—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Books—Correspondence.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held at the London Institution, on Friday, February 2nd, 1883, at 8 P.M., when Papers will be read by Mr. C. W. SUTTON, on "Free Public Libraries in 1882" and by Mr. H. R. TEDDER on "The Bibliography of 1882."

It has been decided to continue the publication of MONTHLY NOTES for the next twelve months, and Mr. Ernest Thomas has been requested to continue his services as Hon. Editor. With the present number is issued an Eight-page Supplement, containing the Revised List of Members for the present year.

At the Council and at the Monthly Meeting held on the 5th of January, resolutions were passed expressing the regret felt by the Association at the death of Mr. William Brace, LL.B.

At the January Council it was resolved to hold a Special Council Meeting on Friday, 26th January, to consider the steps proper to be taken to cause the Distribution of Public Documents to Free Public Libraries.

A Sub-Committee of Council has been appointed to settle the details of the proposed Examination for Library Assistants.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The fourth Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, January 5th at 8 P.M. Mr. R. HARRISON, Treasurer (afterwards Mr. J. YATES) in the chair. The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that Mr. D. R. CHAPMAN, Librarian, Free Public Library and Museum, Hereford, had joined the Association.

The following gentlemen were duly proposed and seconded for election at the next Monthly Meeting: Mr. EDWARD M. BORRAJO, 22, Haverstock Hill, N.W., proposed by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, seconded by the Secretary; Mr. BERNARD B. WOODWARD, of the British Museum of Natural History, proposed by Mr. Richard Garnett, seconded by the Secretary; Rev. CECIL DAVIS, proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by Mr. H. R. Tedder.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Tedder, and resolved: "That this Meeting of Members of the L.A.U.K. desire to express their regret at the loss sustained by the death of their much respected Member, Mr. W. Brace."

In the absence of the writer, the Chairman called upon Mr. Tedder to read the Paper by Mr. ERNEST C. THOMAS on

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS TO LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

It appears to be considered by very many people in this country, that the distribution of public documents in the United States, is carried on in a very satisfactory way. A writer in one of the Leeds newspapers, not very long ago, observed that "in France and the United States, two copies of all the Government publications are sent to each rate-aided library in the country gratis," and we were advised to take a leaf out of the book of our American cousins. Even Mr. Axon in the paper he read before us in 1879, drew a comparison between English and American methods in this matter, very greatly in favour of the latter.

It is interesting to observe that the compliments thus paid have in each instance been gently deprecated by the conductors of the *Library Journal*, as the mouthpiece of American Librarians. I have thought that, as we are about to consider what steps should be taken to secure a proper distribution of Documents published at the national expense to our rate-supported libraries in this country, it might not be inopportune to consider what is the state of things in the United States in reference to this important question.

I think it may be assumed that even before the American Library Association had begun its labours, the mind of American Librarians had begun to be exercised on this subject. In the very first number

of the *Library Journal*, issued before the Philadelphia Conference, Mr. Melvil Dewey drew attention to it.

At the first Annual Meeting of the Association held in New York, in September, 1877, the question was discussed by Mr. Spofford, who spoke of the "present disgraceful condition, if I may be allowed to use so strong a term, of the laws for the distribution of publications of the Government of the United States. The Statutes require the Secretary of the Interior . . . to distribute them to Public Libraries in the country, on the recommendation and nomination of the members of Congress, one copy to some Library in each Congressional district, with certain restrictions. That work badly, because there is no continuity of supplies for the libraries . . ."

At that Meeting a Committee was appointed to deal with the subject, consisting of Messrs. Spofford, S. S. Green, and Langworthy (who was afterwards replaced by Mr. Lee.)

Early in 1878, Senator Hoare introduced a Bill before the Senate, "to encourage the formation of Free Public Libraries." It provided "that whenever any Public Library shall be registered in the Department of the Interior, and shall prove to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior that it contains 10,000 volumes, and is free to the use of the public under reasonable regulations, it shall be entitled to receive a copy of every public document or other book printed for public distribution." This Bill appears to have been read twice, but no further progress appears to have been made with it.

The Committee appointed at the New York Conference, presented an elaborate Report to the Washington Conference, where it appears to have been fully discussed. (See *Library Journal*, vi, pp. 86—90, discussion pp. 129, 130.)

From the information collected in this Report, it appears that by the existing laws of the United States relating to this subject, 423 copies of the executive documents are sent to the Department of the Interior, to be distributed to State and Territorial Libraries, to Incorporated Public Libraries, Athenæums, Colleges, Boards of Trade, &c. *designated as Depositories* by Senators and Members of the House of Representatives. Upon this two remarks may be made:

In the first place the Libraries, &c. designated, are only entitled to receive these documents if the Secretary of the Interior has a sufficient number of sets to supply them, so that in the nature of things, many Libraries must be totally excluded. The entire number of sets it has been seen, is only 423; and the Committee estimate that there are perhaps 600 Libraries fairly entitled to receive such documents besides those which now receive documents by law.

In the second place the provision of law is capable of an interpretation which would allow the Congressmen to change the Library designated every Congress, so that it might become necessary for persons wishing to study the documents of a series of years to go to several libraries in succession in order to do so.

The Committee recommended that such alterations should be made

in the law as would secure that when a Library had once been designated, it should continue to be a depository entitled to receive such documents until it ceased to be a proper place of deposit. They thought that the law should be so amended that not only executive documents, but all books, pamphlets and maps ordered by Congress to be printed should be sent to these designated Libraries. They were unable to formulate a recommendation which should include the delivery to them of all important documents issued by the various departments and bureaus of the Government. They concluded by recommending as a first step that a Committee should be empowered to draft a bill dealing with certain portions of the subject.

The Report of the Committee was adopted, and seven further resolutions were carried after a protracted discussion, of which two only need be quoted as mainly pertinent to our present purpose: That we specially desire as early as possible (1) That all documents for public Libraries be distributed through one agency .... (2) That a list of Libraries in addition to the State Libraries be designated to receive all public documents regularly and independently of the will of individual members of Congress.

A Committee of five was appointed "to try to secure from Congress such changes as shall best serve the interests of the Libraries of the country." This Committee accordingly drafted two bills. Of these the first provided that a complete set of documents should be sent (1) to each State Library and (2) that one Library in each Congressional district, and two Libraries in each State should be designated by the representatives and senators respectively to receive all documents except bills and resolves, and finally that the documents should be sent (3) to all Libraries in the United States of over 100,000 volumes—provided that each Library should promise to preserve them permanently and freely accessible to the general public. The second Bill provided for the publication of a list of all documents issued from 1st December, 1871, to 1st December, 1881, to be continued by quarterly lists.

From the latest statement on the subject by Mr. S. S. Green, the Chairman of this Committee (*Library Journal*, vol. vii., 226, Sept., 1882), we learn that the Bill was approved by the Executive Board of the American Library Association, but the member of the committee representing the Department Libraries at Washington, Dr. J. S. Billings, disliked it. The whole matter appears to have been laid before the Senate Committee on Printing, and in the result a joint resolution of Congress was passed, embodying provisions identical with those recommended by Dr. Billings. The Resolution was as follows:—"Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives, &c., That whenever any document or report shall be ordered to be printed by Congress, there shall be in addition to the number in each case stated, the usual number of copies for binding and distribution among those entitled to receive them."

The "usual number" refers to the 423 sets above referred to as furnished to the Secretary of the Interior, and the effect of the resolution is to carry out the recommendation of the First Committee of

the American Library Association so far as relates to the extension of the distribution to all documents ordered to be printed, and not to executive documents only.

Nothing seems to have been done to carry out the other recommendations of the Committee, or to guard against the evil of a haphazard distribution to libraries according to the caprice of Congressmen. Mr. Green nevertheless thinks that Libraries may, on the whole, feel reasonably well satisfied with the beginning which has been made in providing for their wants. He concludes with the following words, which may not be altogether without significance for us:—"It is evident that the efforts of the American Library Association have directly or indirectly had much to do in helping along the reform which is progressing in the method adopted in distributing public documents, and also in procuring printed lists of current and late publications of the United States Government."

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks to the writer of the paper was passed and the Meeting adjourned.

THE NEW BODLEIAN CATALOGUING RULES.

[We have thought the issue of a new Code of Rules for the use of the Cataloguers at the Bodleian expressly based upon our own Code, a matter of such importance, that we may well afford the space necessary to compare the two Codes in detail. We print here, accordingly, the Bodleian Rules, considered as a recension of the rules of the L. A. U. K. The new matter introduced by Bodley's Librarian, as well as the more important alterations made by him, are printed in SMALL CAPITALS, with the Association Rule in square brackets. We hope that the comparison thus instituted may be found of value and interest. In our next we propose to say something on the points of variance between the two Codes.—ED.]

Compendious Cataloguing Rules for the Author-Catalogue of the Bodleian Library.

Title.

1. The title to be an exact transcript from the titlepage, not amended, translated, or in any way altered, except that mottoes, repetitions, and matter of any kind not essential may be omitted—omissions to be indicated by a group of three dots (. . .): BUT THE NAME OF AN AUTHOR OR EDITOR, IF IT OCCUR ON THE TITLEPAGE IN THE SAME FORM AS IN THE HEADING, MAY BE OMITTED IF NO AMBIGUITY BE OCCASIONED THEREBY; AND FORENAMES WHICH ARE GIVEN IN FULL IN THE HEADING MAY BE REPRESENTED BY INITIALS IN THE ENTRY OF THE TITLE. The typography and punctuation of the title need not be strictly adhered to. All anonymous works of which the author is known are to have the abbreviation 'Anon.' added in square brackets. [L. A. puts the last provision in rule 10.]

2. The titles of works especially valuable for antiquity or rarity

may be given in full, WITH ALL PRACTICABLE EXACTNESS [L. A.—with the exact punctuation.]

3. In English, initial capitals are to be given to proper names of persons and personifications, places, societies, noted events and periods; to adjectives and other words derived from proper names when they have a direct reference to the person, place, &c., from which they are derived; and to the first word of every quoted title of a work [L. A.—to titles of honour, when standing instead of a a proper name, *e. g.*, Earl of Derby, but John Stanley, earl of Derby.]

4. In other [L. A.—foreign] languages the use of capitals is to follow the local practice.

5. In doubtful cases capitals are to be avoided.

Volumes, Place, Date, Size, &c.

6. Other particulars are to be given after the title in the following order:—

(i) The edition as specified on the titlepage.

(ii) The number of volumes, if more than one.

(iii) The place of publication—followed by the place of printing, when different from that of publication, in brackets. IN THE CASE OF BOOKS OF THE 15TH AND 16TH CENTURIES OR OF SPECIAL VALUE OR RARITY, THE NAMES OF THE PUBLISHER AND PRINTER ARE TO BE ADDED AFTER THE ABOVE ENTRIES RESPECTIVELY.

(iv) The date, as given on the titlepage, in Arabic figures.

(v) The size.

[L. A.: (*c*) *Number of pp.; if only one vol.* (*d*) *Number of separate illustrations, etc.* (*e*) Size. (*f*) Place of publication. (*g*) Date. Those particulars printed in italics are optional.]

Language of Title and Imprint.

7. Title- and imprint-entries are to be as far as possible in the language of the title, but additions [L. A.—alterations and additions] are to be in English, enclosed in brackets. [L. A.—square brackets.]

Contents and Notes.

8. Contents of volumes are to be given when expedient.

9. Notes, explanatory or illustrative, or descriptive of bibliographical and other peculiarities, including imperfections, are to be added when necessary [L. A.—tables of contents and notes to be in smaller type.]

Headings and Cross-references.

Books are to be entered:—

10. Under the surnames of authors, when stated on the titlepage or otherwise certainly known, followed by the forename and other necessary prefixes in round brackets. [L. A.—A name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation "Anon." added.]

11. WHEN ONLY THE INITIALS OR PSEUDONYM OF AN AUTHOR OCCUR IN THE BOOK, IT IS ALSO TO BE REGARDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEADINGS AS ANONYMOUS; AND A CROSS-REFERENCE IS TO BE MADE FROM THE INITIALS OR PSEUDONYM TO THE FIRST HEADING, the last initial being placed first, followed by the others in round brackets [L. A.—A name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation "Anon." added.]

12. Under the pseudonyms of the writers, unless the book be already entered under two headings, in which case a cross-reference is to be made from the pseudonym to the first heading. [L. A.—a name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation "Anon." added.

13. Under the names of editors of collections, and under the catch-titles of such collections; the parts are to be at the same time sufficiently catalogued under their own headings.

14. Under the names of countries, cities, societies, &c., which cause them to be published [L. A.—authorize their publication.]

15. Under the chief word or words [L. A.—the first word not an article] of the titles of periodicals.

16. Under the first striking word [L. A.—chief subject-word] or words of the titles of anonymous works, with a cross-reference, where advisable, from any other noticeable word or catch-title. IF THE NAME OF A WRITER OCCUR IN A WORK but not on the titlepage, the work is also to be regarded for the purpose of headings as anonymous [L. A. The latter instruction is part of Rule 10.]

17. Commentaries with the text, EDITIONS OF THE TEXT, and translations are to be entered (1) under the heading of the original work, AND (2) UNDER THE NAME OF THE COMMENTATOR, EDITOR, OR TRANSLATOR [L. A.—under the name of the commentator]; commentaries without the text are to be entered under the same two headings, the second being placed first.

18. Editions of the entire Bible, with or without the Apocrypha, are to be entered under the word *Bible:* EDITIONS OF PARTS OF THE BIBLE COMPRISING MORE THAN ONE BOOK UNDER THE WORDS *Testament* (*Old*), *Apocrypha*, *Testament* (*New*), OR LESSER DIVISIONS SUCH AS *Pentateuch*, *Historical books*, *Hagiographa*, *Prophets*, *Gospels*, *Paul the apostle*, *Epistles* (*General*).

[L. A.—18. The Bible, or any part of it (including the Apocrypha) in any language, is to be under the word "Bible," the separate parts classed in the order of the authorized version, polyglots and original texts coming first, followed by English translations; the other versions in alphabet of names of the languages.]

19. The Talmud and Koran (and parts of them) are to be entered under those words.

20. The sacred books of other religions are to be entered under the names by which they are generally known. [L.A. adds—cross references to be given from the names of editors, translators, &c.]

21. Service- and prayer-books of the Church of England are to be

entered under the names by which they are commonly known, such as *Prayer* (*Book of common*), *Baptism* (*Order of*), *Communion* (*Holy*) &c.: those of the Church of Rome in like manner under *Missal*, *Breviary*, *Hours*, &c., with a sub-heading of the use. Service-books of other religious communities are to be entered under the head of *Liturgies*, with a sub-heading of the religious community.

[L. A.—20. Service and Prayer-Books used by any religious community are to be placed under the head of Liturgies, with a sub-head of the religious community.]

22. Books having more than one author or editor are to be entered under the one first named in the title, with at least SUFFICIENT CROSS-REFERENCE [L. A.—with a cross-reference under each of the others.]

N.B.—SEPARATE MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS, ACCOMPANIED BY WORDS, ARE TO BE ENTERED UNDER THE NAMES OF THE AUTHORS AND TRANSLATORS OF THE WORDS (UNLESS THESE ARE TAKEN FROM THE BIBLE OR A PUBLIC SERVICE-BOOK) AS WELL AS UNDER THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND EDITORS OF THE MUSIC.

23. Names of translators, commentators, editors, and preface-writers, if they do not occur in the titlepage, may be added in brackets, a further heading or cross-reference being made when necessary. [L.A.—a cross-reference being made in each case.]

24. In the case of an academical thesis the *praeses* is to be considered as the author, unless the work unequivocally appears to be the work of the respondent or defender. [L. A. exactly reverses this.]

25. Reports of civil actions are to be entered under the name of the party to the suit which stands first on the titlepage. Reports of Crown and criminal proceedings are to be entered under the name of the defendant. Admiralty proceedings relating to vessels are to be entered under the name of the vessel.

26. Catalogues are to be entered under the name of the compiler —also, as circumstances require, under the names of one or more of the institutions or persons now or formally owning the collection, and, where desirable, under the name of the collection itself [L. A.— under the name of the institution, or owner, with a cross-reference from the compiler.]

27. Noblemen are to be entered under the title, except when the family-name is better known; a cross-reference from the one to the other being made in every case.

28. Ecclesiastical dignitaries; unless Popes or RULING [L. A.— sovereign] Princes, are to be entered under their surnames; their current and highest subsequent title to be added [L. A.—with a cross-reference from the title employed in the book.]

29. All persons generally known by a forename are to be so entered, the English form being preferred in the case of ruling Princes, Popes, Oriental writers, friars, and persons canonized.

30. Married women and other persons who have changed their names are to be put under THE LAST WELL-KNOWN NAME [L. A.— name best known], with a cross reference from OTHER [L. A.—the last] authorized names.

31. In the headings of titles the names of authors are to be given in full, and in their vernacular form: but authors generally known under their Latin or Latinized names may be [L. A.—are to be] entered under those names, a cross-reference being made from the vernacular form.

32. English and French surnames beginning with a prefix OR PREFIXES are to be recorded under the FIRST prefix, and surnames in other languages under the word following the LAST prefix—except that French names beginning with *de* or *d'* are to be entered under the word following *de* or *d'*.

33. English compound surnames, NOT CONNECTED BY AN HYPHEN, are to be entered under the last part of the names [L. A.—under first part]: foreign ones, WITH OR WITHOUT HYPHENS, UNDER THE ENTIRE COMPOUND NAME, cross references being given in all instances.

34. When an author has been known by more than one name, references are to be inserted from the name or names not used as headings to the one used.

35. A society is to be entered under the leading word or words of its corporate name, with cross-reference from any other name by which it is well known. [L. A.—*and from the name of the place where its head-quarters are established.*]

(To be concluded.)

LIBRARY NOTES.

BURNLEY.—On New Year's Day was commenced a week's celebration of the jubilee of the Burnley Mechanics' Institution, which was founded by four working men, whose first subscription amounted to a shilling, and which now has sixteen hundred members, a library of over eleven thousand volumes, elementary science and art classes very largely attended, and property free from debt valued at £14,000. The festivities began with a banquet presided over by Dr. Brumwell, J.P., who suggested that the Institution be extended and formed into a working man's college, in order that the working people of the town and district might be able to graduate from the institution to the Victoria University. This suggestion was heartily taken up by the speakers who followed.

GLASGOW.—In the *Glasgow Herald* of 26th December appears the sixth and concluding paper of the series of articles on "Stirling's Library," which have been contributed by Mr. Thomas Mason, the Librarian. This final instalment deals with the general position and probable prospects of the Library. It appears that the number of members, which had never previously risen above 320, is now over 500, 336 of whom have been added within the last eighteen months. It is expected that the issues of the present year will be double those of last year, and quadruple those of the preceding year. Mr. Mason suggests the desirability of combining the Mitchell Library and Stirling's Library under a single roof, without otherwise affecting the individuality of either institution. Mr. Mason has furnished a

useful contribution to library history and economy, and we should be very glad to see the articles reprinted.

HULL.—The polling on the question of the adoption of the Free Libraries Acts took place on Saturday, December 16, when the proposal to adopt the Acts was rejected. The voting was, For the adoption, 4212; Against, 5889; majority against, 1677. The number of abstentions was very large, and the result is attributed to the defection and apathy of many of the ratepayers. It is noticeable that the number of voters was not greater than the number of those who signed the requisition calling upon the Mayor to summon a public meeting, at which, moreover, the opponents of the movement were a very small minority.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The turning of the Museum Catalogues into print has proceeded so far as very appreciably to affect the point on which Mr. Garnett has always laid so much stress. The printing of the Map Catalogue means a gain of at least 50 volumes of Catalogue. By the work done on the General Catalogue a space of 23 feet of shelving had been gained up to October. The printing is not now done as at first on the paper of which the volumes are made, but on thin paper, which is then pasted down, by which a saving of one-sixth is effected in the cost of printing. This was found, however, to increase inconveniently the weight of the Catalogue volumes, and accordingly these are not made so thick.

LONDON: BRENTFORD.—In consequence of the great success which has attended the establishment of free public libraries at Richmond, Twickenham, and Kingston, a movement has been set on foot with a view to the adoption of the Libraries Acts at the neighbouring town of Brentford. The Executive Committee has issued an address to the inhabitants of the town setting forth the advantages to be derived from the adoption of the Acts, and a Public Meeting of ratepayers and others was held on January 10th.

MANCHESTER LITERARY CLUB.—The Second Half Session of the Manchester Literary Club was opened on Monday, January 8th, when Mr. Chancellor Christie read a Paper on the Marquis of Morante, his Library and its Catalogue. The Marquis was the greatest bibliophile Spain has ever produced, and he collected the largest private library of the nineteenth century. He was born in 1808, and died in 1868, and during his life-time had amassed over 120,000 volumes,—chiefly of the Latin Classics, and books bearing upon Latin Literature and Philology. He died from the effects of a fall from a ladder in his library, and his great collections were dispersed. He prepared himself and printed a Catalogue of his library, which with its Supplements, extends to nine vols. octavo. Chancellor Christie's Paper was a very graphic and characteristic portrait of a curiously interesting personality, and a valuable contribution to literary history. We regret that our limits confine us to this brief account of it, and we are glad to know that the Paper is to be printed in full. A discussion followed, in which the Chairman

(Mr. Geo. Milner), Mr. W. E. A. Axon, Mr. E. C. Thomas and Mr. H. H. Howorth took part.

MANCHESTER: MEDICAL SOCIETY. — At the Annual Business Meeting of the Society (January 10th) it was reported that the Library had had an accession of 1,054 volumes, making the total number of volumes, now in the Library, 27,298. The issues for the year were to members, 1,449 volumes, and to students 5,980 volumes. Mr. T. Windsor, as Chairman of the Library Committee, continues to superintend the Library as a whole, and Dr. Lindemann is making rapid progress with the compilation of the new Catalogue.

OLDHAM.—It is intended next summer to hold a fine art and industrial exhibition at Oldham, after the model of the Bradford Exhibition. The Town Clerk has already been instructed by the Museum and Free Library Committee to apply to the South Kensington authorities for loans of works of art for decorative and exhibition purposes. The fine arts will be exhibited in the new museum building, now being erected at a cost of £10,000, and the mechanical appliances will be shown in a wooden structure to be erected on the land adjoining.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—The Curators have sanctioned an experiment which not only gives a large immediate increase of staff, but tends indirectly to realize the idea of making the Bodleian a training-school for library-assistants. Six boys have been engaged as under-assistants, working six hours daily, and receiving 10s. a week: their salary will not be increased, and so in a few years they will necessarily leave, and give place to a new set—but they will be encouraged and helped to qualify for library-assistantships elsewhere, and to gain the certificate of the L. A. U. K. As they were required to have a fair knowledge of Latin, and some knowledge of French, to start with; as the lightness of their hours leaves them time for self-improvement; and as the pressure of work necessitates quickness no less than the character of the Bodleian necessitates extreme accuracy, it is hoped that public and other libraries may be inclined to look to the Bodleian as a source from which they can draw exceptionally well qualified junior assistants.

The Curators have agreed that the statute under which the Bodleian building is closed on certain days does not compel the closing of the Camera Bodleiana, where the great mass of readers pursue their studies: the Camera was consequently open on November 7 and 8, December 27-30, and January 1 and 6—days on which the entire library has hitherto been closed. They have further appointed a committee to consider the advisability of asking the University to alter the statute as regards the Bodleian building, so as to minimize the number of closed days.

The formation of the enormous subject-catalogue is making rapid progress, some £350 having been paid in the last seven months to a special staff for the sorting of title-slips. On December 8 the first sub-class was finished: it was "English trials for witchcraft," and a chronological arrangement was adopted, the trials being already

found under the names of the accused persons in the alphabetical catalogue.

The Librarian has proposed to the Curators the purchase of a small press, and the substitution of print for writing in all future cataloguing: the proposal will be considered immediately.

A system of exchanges has been established by which it is hoped that the dissertations of all continental universities will be obtained —not merely, as at present, those of the Prussian universities and Strassburg. The cataloguing of such dissertations has been resumed, and the music received under the Copyright Act is also being catalogued now. A volume to volume examination of the famous Douce collection having shown the incompleteness of its cataloguing (executed half a century ago), many, more or less rare works are likewise being added to the catalogue.

Among the important MS. purchases of the last few months may be mentioned a collection of Armenian gospels and service-books, which doubles the number of Armenian MSS. in the library.

PARIS.—A special commission, which has been recently appointed by the Prefecture of the Seine to consider the organisation and working of the popular municipal libraries of Paris and the department of the Seine, held its first meeting on December 6th. An interesting report from M. Dardenne, Chef du bureau des bibliothèques, was read, and was ordered to be printed. The commission proposes to supplement the existing municipal libraries by establishing a library in each *quartier*, employing for this purpose the building attached to the communal schools. It is proposed also to develope the Fine-art element in connexion with these libraries, so that drawings and chromo-lithographs illustrating furniture, decorations and costumes, may be at the disposition of the Parisian work-people, and also to extend the lending of music, which has been tried with so much success.

During the year ending October last the municipal libraries of Paris have increased from 17 to 21, there being two in one arrondissement. The issues for the year were—books used in the libraries 79,879, lent out 283,443. The proportion of fiction was large, and 8 out of the 21 libraries lent music. The yearly grant amounted to 110,000 frs.

STOCKPORT.—At the last meeting of the Town Council (Jan. 10) a committee was appointed to consider the desirability of holding an Art Exhibition in Stockport, in connexion with the Free Library. Measures also being taken to extend and improve the Free Library. Mr. Buckland, the Librarian, desires us to announce that it has been determined in future to publish the Library Report not in September, but together with the other Corporation Reports in March.

TORONTO.—An appeal to the ratepayers of Toronto on the question of the establishment of a rate-supported free library in that city resulted on the 1st January in 5,332 votes For and 2,846 Against, a majority of 2,486 in favour of the scheme.

We much regret to announce the death of our esteemed Member, Mr. William Brace, which occurred, after a short illness, on the 19th of December. He was in expectation of being shortly called to the Bar, for which profession he was well fitted by a long course of legal studies, and the practical knowledge of conveyancing, particularly of ancient forms of tenure, which he had gained during his appointment at the Stepney Manor Office. He possessed a thorough acquaintance with ancient records, and had been engaged for the last few years upon the archives of the Drapers' Company. He was also lately occupied in transcribing, for Mr. Edwin Freshfield, the Registers of the parish of St. Christopher-le-Stocks; and has left unfinished a transcript of a collection of letters addressed to the geographer Ortelius, of Antwerp, by his learned contemporaries of the 16th century, which he was preparing for the Consistory of the Dutch Church in London. These letters are preserved together with the Dutch Church Library, of which they form a part, in the Guildhall Library, and the Catalogue of the Collection published in 1869, was chiefly the work of Mr. Brace. He took a great interest in library work, and will be remembered as Editor of this Journal during the first two years, and as one of our Auditors. Those of our readers who knew his amiable disposition and willingness to help others will regret his loss.

A Meeting of the members of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, was held at 12 Pall Mall East, on the 22nd of December, Mr. Edwd. J. Watherston in the Chair. It was resolved to take vigorous action in the new year, and Mr. H. R. Tedder was elected Honorary Secretary, in succession to Mr. E. B. Nicholson.

The German citizens of Baltimore are about to present the late Professor Bluntschli's library to the Johns Hopkins University.

The *Daily News* observes that "it is not generally known that one of the first acts a new Primate is called upon to perform is either to deposit or give security for £10,000, as a guarantee for the safe custody of the magnificent library at Lambeth Palace."

The new number of the *Library Journal* admits the justice of Mr. Tedder's remarks in our October number. Mr. Cutter says: "We are more practical and the English more antiquarian. In consequence the American papers are 'dryer,' and interest a smaller circle of readers. The cause must lie in our character, for we believe that each programme Committee has, like the English, accepted every paper that has been presented to it. [This is not quite true of the English Committee, by the way.] . . . The *Library Journal* has had the same experience. In nearly seven years only two papers of an antiquarian character have been written for it"—and one of these was by Mr. Axon! The principal articles of the present number are one on the "Proposed New National Library," and a "Classification of Library Economy and History" by Mr. Cutter.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Supplementary Catalogue of the Books in that portion of the Bolton Free Library, forming the Free Reference Department. By James K. Waite. Bolton, 1882. 8vo, pp. 139.

An alphabetical catalogue of authors and titles. The most noticeable feature of the catalogue is the appendix containing the most extensive list we remember to have seen of "Novels, Tales, &c., with the Magazine in which they originally appeared."

Catalogue of Books in the Library of the Unitarian Home Missionary Board, Memorial Hall, Manchester. 1882. Price Sixpence. 8vo, pp. iv.-76.

A neatly printed author-catalogue, which might serve at least as a foundation for a Unitarian bibliography. "In drawing up this catalogue use has been made of slips prepared by Mr. W. E. A. Axon for a classified Catalogue, a copy of which, in manuscript, is kept at the Memorial Hall."

Jarrow-on-Tyne. Eighteenth Annual Report of the Jarrow Public Hall and Institute, 1881-82. 8vo, pp. 16.

The committee report that the Institute is financially prosperous, though they have to regret a considerable decrease of membership. The readers during the year have numbered 700, and the issues have been 8,840, a decrease of 136. There are now 2,540 volumes in the library.

Aberdeen. Handbook of the Aberdeen Mechanics' Institution for 1882-83, and Report of the Institution for 1881-82. Aberdeen, 1882. 8vo, pp. 26.

The directors announce that it is proposed that the Educational part of the institution should be absorbed into that of Robert Gordon's, while it is proposed to offer the Library to the Town Council (as to which some information will be found elsewhere in our present number). They report that the Library has fallen off very much during the year. The quarterly average of readers has been 699 against 873 last year, and the year's income has been £231 0*s.* 9½*d.* against £277 11*s.* 6½*d.* last year. The number of volumes in the Library is 16,729.

Leamington, Free Public Library. Chairman's Annual Report. [Reprinted from the "*Leamington News.*" Dated October 26, 1882]. 4to, pp. 2.

Dr. Thursfield reports another change of premises, making two removals in nine years at a cost of over £250. The income was £547 2*s.* 2*d.*, and the expenditure £532 9*s.* 6*d.* The expenditure upon new books, owing to the expenses of removal, was very small. The issues from the Lending Library were 45,490 against 46,074 last year, a decrease due to the longer closing of the Library this year. The issues in the Reference Library were 5,606 against 6,542 last year. The number of volumes in the Libraries is now 11,971. The Chairman concludes by urging the need of a better home, and more liberal donations of useful books.

City of Boston [U. S.] Thirtieth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, 1882. 8vo, pp. 69.

The Trustees report that the aggregate number of volumes embraced in the Bates Hall collection is 254,431, in the Lower Hall 37,186; in the branches 112,604, making a total of 404,221, a net increase for the year of 13,239. The issues for the year shows a decrease of 24,528 vols. taken from the shelves, amounting in 1880-1 to 1,065,081, and 1881-2 to 1,040,553. The delivery of periodicals at the Central Library and 5 branches shows 492,090 (previous year

520,672). The Boylston Street Reading room furnished 374,246. The City appropriations amounted to $115,000, the expenditure to $120,950·72. A site for the proposed new library building has not yet been secured, and the Trustees urge the necessity of prompt action. Appended are reports from Mr. Furness on the Shaksperian Collection, from the Examining Committee, and the Librarian, the latter followed by elaborate statistical tables. Two members of the Examining Committee present a minority report, in which they urge that greater care should be taken to keep immoral books out of the hands of minors. The majority of the Committee "do not find any such condition of affairs as is intimated in the Minority Report, nor do they think that it belongs to the Trustees to relieve parents of a proper care for the reading of their children."

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

The Book-Lover's Enchiridion. Thoughts on the Solace and Companionship of Books. Selected and chronologically arranged by Philobiblos. [Manchester: printed by A. Ireland & Co.] 1883. 32mo, pp. xii.-237.

A not uninteresting compilation, though there are too many long extracts from undistinguished and platitudinous essayists. The writer claims the merit of having gone to the original sources, but it is impossible to say much for his sources or his accuracy, when on his first page we find him quoting the famous inscription on the Library of Osymandyas as an "inscription on the Library at Alexandria, founded about 300 B.C.; destroyed A.D. 640,"—quite a nest of blunders,—and gravely offering as his *source* "I. D'Israeli's Curiosities of Literature."

Catalogue of Law Books published for Sale by William Gould and Son, Law Booksellers and Publishers. Second Issue. Albany, N. Y., 1882. 8vo, pp. iii.-374, sheep.

The nucleus of this catalogue, we are told, was prepared by the Hon. Nathaniel C. Moak for the use of his students at the Albany Law School, so that it is "a catalogue prepared by a lawyer, for use by lawyers, rather than a bookseller's catalogue." However true this may have been of the "nucleus," we hardly find it true of the book now noticed. At the same time there is a good deal of miscellaneous information as to reports, &c. likely to be of use to the lawyer as well as to the bookseller.

Guide de l'Amateur. Bibliographie des ouvrages illustrés du XIX^e^ siècle, principalement des livres à gravures sur bois; par Jules Brivois. Paris: L. Conquet, 1882. 8vo, pp. xiii.-468. Price 25 frs.

Confined to French books, of which about 600 are described. The titles are given at length, with lists of plates and other illustrations, and any particulars as to varieties of impression which may be necessary.

Bibliotheca Scriptorum Classicorum; herausgegeben von Wilhelm Engelmann. Achte Auflage, umfassend die Literatur von 1700 bis 1878, neu bearbeitet, von Dr. E. Preuss. Zweite Abtheilung: Scriptores Latini. Leipzig: W. Engelmann, 1882. 8vo, pp. iv.-771. Price 20 m.

The first part devoted to Greek writers appeared in 1880. The titles are given in full, with contents of volumes, publisher's names and prices. Lists of illustrative works are added to each author. This valuable bibliography is absolutely necessary in any library possessing Greek and Latin books.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A FREE LIBRARY FOR ABERDEEN.

A Report of the year's work, and a special Memorandum issued by the Directors of the Aberdeen Mechanics' Institution, bearing on a suggestion made in that Report, have been sent to me; I enclose them to you with a few comments. The proverbial caution of the Scot is more marked in Aberdeen than anywhere else in Scotland; a certain sharpness also in the race is very pronounced. As schoolmen they are foremost; sound, broad and liberal education is abundant and procurable by all, at less cost than is common in England. The number of young men and women who in evening classes try to supplement and advance the knowledge they have already got, is, for the size of the city, very large indeed. Over 1,100 attend one place of instruction, we observe, yet this city of 100,000 inhabitants is without a Free Library, and its artizans and poor students can get the use of no books of reference when required by either, unless, by a money deposit to the University of Aberdeen, which neither can afford to make. Already, on the basis of an old bequest, something like £6,000 a year of an endowment, is carrying on energetically a technical school at Robert Gordon's College, and the Directors of the Mechanics' Institution of Aberdeen are very sensibly alive to the further advantages in store for poor students and artizans, when they make the following offer of "Property and Funds applicable for Library purposes to be made over to Town Council, contingently on the adoption of the Free Library and Museum Acts, and prior to the amalgamation of the Mechanics' Institution with Robert Gordon's College becoming operative.

"Value of Books in the Library	£1,027	3	0
Do. of Shelving, Presses, and Fittings...	105	0	0
Proportion of General Estate to be dealt with as held for Library purposes	2,640	0	0
	£3,772	3	0"

We shall watch with no little interest the result of this wise resolve and offer of the Directors of this old Library. The nucleus of a good general Library and a Building is, we think, a large inducement to any Borough to take advantage of the Acts by which their educational means may be rendered complete.—E.

CAUTION.

A man who calls himself Thomas Clements George, and who is very likely the same as the person described in M. N. iii. 80, is now going the round of the London librarians for the purpose of begging. He represents himself as having been employed in the Manchester Free Library, and has the names of the provincial librarians very glibly. Mr. Sutton has written to say that he is an impostor.—W.

*** *The Editor regrets that he is unable to find room for several communications.*

LONDON: *Printed and Sold for the Association by* J. DAVY & SONS, *Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre.*
Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3*s.* 6*d.*

MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—February Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. W. R. Credland, "Free Public Libraries in 1882;" by Mr. H. R. Tedder, "The Bibliography of 1882"—The New Bodleian Cataloguing Rules, II—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Correspondence, &c.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held at the London Institution, on Friday, March 2nd, 1883, at 8 P.M., when a Paper will be read by the HON. SECRETARY, on "Classed Catalogues and the new Classed Catalogue of the German Reichsgericht."

As our members will have observed, an attempt has been made in the new List of Members, issued with the January number, to carry out the undertaking given at Cambridge, and to clear the lists of those who have ceased to be members in anything but name. The list still contains the names of a few members whose subscriptions for last year are unpaid, and it is hoped that this reminder will lead them either to remit at once or to intimate their wish to withdraw.

We regret to announce that at the February Council meeting Mr. BONE tendered his resignation, which the Council accepted with regret, and with an expression of their thanks to Mr. BONE for his services. Mr. BONE'S resignation was conveyed by the following letter:—

52, Threadneedle Street,
2nd February, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,

The loss of our lamented friend Mr. Brace puts me in the position of wishing to be relieved of my duties as one of the Auditors.

If I had leisure of my own in the daytime I should very willingly retain my post, and, to the best of my ability, discharge its obligations, in return for the

compliment kindly paid me in my re-election at the Cambridge meeting. I greatly regretted that, not being my own master, and owing to business requirements in London, I could not have the pleasure of being there. In the audit I had been unable to work with Mr. Brace except in the evening, on two or perhaps three occasions till midnight, and I only acquiesced tacitly in my re-appointment, because I was joined with one whom I had found so painstaking and invaluable as a colleague, and whom I esteemed and liked so much as a friend.

Under the present altered circumstances I should feel obliged if you would kindly ask the Council to be so good as to accept my resignation.

Believe me, my dear Sir,
Very truly yours,
JOHN W. BONE.

ERNEST C. THOMAS, ESQ.
Hon. Secretary.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The fifth Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, February 2nd at 8 P.M. Mr. H. R. TEDDER in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that the following gentlemen had become Members of the Association: Mr. W. ELLIS, Assistant-Librarian, London Library; Mr. WILLIAM STERZEL, Librarian, Free Library, Middlesborough, reported by Mr. HAGGERSTON; Mr. ALEXANDER WALKER, President, Mechanics' Institution, Aberdeen.

The following gentlemen having been duly proposed at the last Meeting were elected Members of the Association: Mr. EDWARD M. BORRAJO, Mr. BERNARD B. WOODWARD, Rev. CECIL DAVIS.

Mr. STEPHEN CHRISTY, Highfield, Davenport, Stockport, was proposed by Mr. C. Welch, seconded by the Secretary, for election at the next Meeting.

The death was announced of two Members, Mr. C. H. BAYLEY and Lieut. T. D. SULLIVAN.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Tedder, seconded by Mr. C. Welch, and unanimously carried: "That the warm congratulations of this Meeting of Members of the L. A. U. K. be offered to Mr. W. F. Poole on the publication of his extremely valuable 'Index to Periodical Literature.'"

The Chairman then called upon the SECRETARY, in the absence of the writer, to read a Paper by Mr. W. R. CREDLAND, Sub-Librarian, Manchester Free Public Libraries, on

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN 1882.

THE year just closed has been a very eventful one in the annals of the Free Library movement. It has shown clearly enough that the beneficial legislation of thirty years ago is obtaining from the public that attention and support which a measure of such unquestionable utility deserves to receive.

There are now nearly 100 rate-supported libraries in Great Britain, containing over 3,000,000 volumes, and during last year books were lent to more than 10,000,000 of readers. These enormous figures suggest more than one homily, but I am at present concerned only to indicate that the movement has from the first been a living one, that its vitality has continued to grow, and that it is now in as healthy a condition as the most enthusiastic librarian could desire—and these few striking figures seem to demonstrate the position. With the spread of free libraries throughout the country, the application of the acts by diverse bodies and under diverse circumstances, and the desire to increase their adaptability to special needs, faults have been found, or improvements have from time to time been suggested in them. These culminated in the preparation of a Bill to amend the Free Libraries Act. This Bill was prepared with the advice and sanction of the representatives of the principal rate-supported libraries of the kingdom, who met in Manchester at the request of Alderman Baker, the Mayor of that city, and was subsequently introduced into Parliament by the Member for Stockport. It was ordered to be printed on February 10th, but was slaughtered among the innocents without having received any consideration or discussion. On this point, therefore, the record of 1882 is not satisfactory, but it is to be earnestly desired that, in the forthcoming Session (when the Bill will be again introduced) better fortune will attend it, and that the hopes of greatly increased utility which it holds out to many libraries already established, and even of existence itself to some others, will not be disappointed. Another matter, which cannot be spoken of without dissatisfaction and, to us, a certain astonishment, is the rejection of the Free Libraries Acts in six important places, namely, Hastings, Lynn, Ayr, Hull, Merthyr-Tydvil, and Putney. Some American writer has somewhere said that every town ought to possess a free library, containing as many books as there are inhabitants. Here are six towns that have in the aggregate an enormous population, and yet are without a single book to lend to anybody, and without a desire to have one. Hull, the chief offender, is a seaport of 120,000 inhabitants. Where is its library of 120,000 vols.? It has rejected the acts twice before, and although a gallant effort was made under the able guidance of Dr. Rollit, although £2000 was promised towards defraying preliminary expenses, and a site would have been made available, the "heathen in their blindness," that is, the ratepayers, cast aside this good thing when it came to the vote. The voting was—for adopting 4212, against 5889.

At Hastings the affair was little better than a fiasco, only twenty persons voting in favour of the Acts at the public meeting. These failures should not discourage the workers in the good cause of Free Libraries, but rather stimulate them to increased effort, as failure seems to have done in Edinburgh and Glasgow. In those cities our friends have not been idle during the past year. In Edinburgh, after the defeat of the Act, an effort was made to establish district libraries, to be maintained by a small subscription, but practically I

suppose out of the pockets of the promoters. I have, however, no information bearing on the result of this attempt.

Glasgow has been more serious and more practical. In November a meeting of citizens was held to consider a scheme brought forward by Lord Provost Ure to secure a site for the erection of buildings suitable for a Museum, Art Gallery, School of Art and Public Library. A general feeling was expressed that Glasgow had been far too long without adequate provision for those important purposes, and that a serious effort should be made to relieve the city from this reproof. A hope was also expressed that the ratepayers would be induced to adopt the Free Libraries Act, so that the Corporation would be enabled not only to increase the usefulness of the Mitchell Library, but to establish district Lending Libraries in other parts of the city. A Committee was formed to carry out the scheme, and over £6000 promised towards the expenses. All this is greatly encouraging, and it is to be hoped that when the question goes once more to the poll, the majority of Glasgow ratepayers will be on the side of sweetness and light.

Turning from this, the darker side of the picture, there is much to record of a more satisfactory character. Perhaps the most important event of the year has been the adoption of the Act by Belfast on November 8th. The matter had been for some few years in agitation, but no previous appeal had been made to the ratepayers for the reason, perhaps, that opinion was not sufficiently ripe to stand the crucial test of the poll. During the discussion of the question some little warmth of language was indulged in, but the Acts were ultimately carried by a large majority. The voting was for 5238, against 1425. In referring to the matter at a subsequent meeting of the Council Mr. S. A. Johnston said that arrangements had been made, by which the volumes (numbering about 3700) that had been collected by the late Sir James Hamilton, would be transferred as a free gift to the new library, and added that the Council should spend at least £25,000 or £30,000 in the erection of a building, which would be a credit to the Corporation, and bear comparison with similar institutions in England and Scotland.

It will, perhaps, be better to deal with the events of lesser importance in chronological order, and, firstly, on the 24th January, a Free Library was opened at St. Albans by Lord Lytton.

At Twickenham, on the 23rd of January, a decision to adopt the Acts was arrived at by an enthusiastic meeting of the parishioners, without a dissentient voice, and on the 25th February following this decision was confirmed by vote, the majority being 676.

The Devonport Free Library was opened on February 6th. The building is the old Mechanic's Institute transformed for the purpose, and the stock of books is composed principally of those forming the Library of that Institution. In this case the Committee had the wisdom to seek the advice of a practical librarian, Mr. W. H. K. Wright of Plymouth, in carrying out the internal arrangements of the Library.

At Ashton-under-Lyne in Lancashire a new Free Library was

opened on March 25th. The Acts were adopted in this borough more than twelve years ago, but through the inertia of the Council were not put into execution. The new agitation for carrying them out owed its success principally to the exertions of Mr. Hugh Mason, M.P., who presented 1000 vols. towards the formation of the Library. The Library opened with 3,900 vols., and is at present a reference Library only.

On April 18 a Free Library was handed over to the town of Wycombe. The Institution was founded by Mr. J. O. Griffits in 1876, who had since that time borne the entire cost of its support. Mr. Griffits appended to his gift the somewhat unusual condition that the institution should be endowed with a sum of £3000 before the expiration of seven years. This has been done, and the future existence of the Library thus effectually secured. New public buildings, containing a Free Library, were opened at Reading on May 31st. The Library had the good fortune to start with a donation of 4000 vols.

A Free Library, which seems to have been very fortunate in attracting donors, was opened at Stafford about May. The Lending Library was lodged in the Mayor's dining room, and contained about 5000 vols. A Free Library was opened at Runcorn on July 6th by Sir J. A. Picton, and at Shrewsbury in November the Municipal Council resolved to adopt the Acts, and a Committee was formed to carry out the necessary arrangements.

With regard to Libraries already established much activity has been displayed. Birmingham has risen from its ashes, and its Reference Library was opened with much ceremony on June 1st. An account of the proceedings has appeared in the Monthly Notes. One or two points came out which cannot be too strongly emphasised or too often repeated. One of these is that the Library re-opened with 50,000 vols., being nearly as many as previously possessed. Another is, that some £15,000 was collected by public subscription, thus proving the great popularity of the Free Library system in that hot-bed of advanced culture and radicalism; and a third is, that no hesitation was felt in providing a building that should do honour to the purpose to which it would be devoted. An elaborate description of the new Free Library buildings at Newcastle, which were opened on the 1st September, also finds a place in the Monthly Notes. Cardiff has been for some time preparing new library buildings, and these were opened quite en fête on 31st May. The magnificent bequest of Mr. Harris to Preston received a first instalment of its intended application on September 5th, when the foundation stone of the Free Library and Museum buildings was laid by the Earl of Lathom. Lord Derby delivered a valuable address on the occasion. A sum amounting to £100,000 will be expended on these two objects, and an institution will be thus provided, which will place Preston in the front rank of the Free Library movement, and give her an additional right to her time honoured epithet.

The popularity of the older established Free Libraries has, in almost every instance, greatly increase[1]. An instructive table, given

in the last report on the working of the Leeds Free Libraries, shows that in twelve of the principal libraries in the kingdom an aggregate of 5,770,871 vols. was issued to readers during last year. The number of vols. contained in these libraries was 847,897. Liverpool and Manchester issued between them nearly 2,500,000 vols. With regard to Manchester the increase in the amount of work done is very marked. This is owing mainly to the present excellent position of the Reference Library in the very heart of the city, and to the opening of the principal Lending Library (after an abeyance of more than three years) in a handsome building, erected for the purpose, in Deansgate. Liverpool deserves the credit of originating and maintaining a series of free lectures in connection with its Free Library. These form a most important and valuable feature in free library management, and, happily, show a tendency to spread—a similar course having been given at Peel Park, Salford, during the present winter months.

In this brief resumé of the Free Library movement during 1882, nothing has been said about London—the great land of darkness and desolation—so far as this movement is concerned. Mr. Tedder has done this already, and I cannot therefore do better than quote a few paragraphs from his report to the Metropolitan Free Library Association. "As regards London, unfortunately there is but little to say. The only rate-supported library in the metropolis, that at Westminster continues its modest but useful career. The three chief libraries, supported by voluntary subscriptions, are also flourishing. The South London Free Library, thanks to the assiduous labours of Mr. Rossiter, maintains its ground; the Committee of the Bethnal Green Free Library (opened to the public December 22, 1881) report a year of prosperity; and the returns of the Free Library at Notting Hill (entirely supported by our member Mr. James Heywood) also show an anxiety on the part of the working poor of London to read and borrow books. But, useful as are these voluntary efforts, they are at the best only temporary makeshifts, owing their very existence to the generosity of individuals, they are not to be compared with such permanent and public institutions as the free public libraries in which every ratepayer possesses a direct personal interest. The Council are glad to say that an attempt is now being made at Hackney to re-open the Free Library question, decided against the Acts a few years ago."

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. CRED-LAND.

A Paper was then read by Mr. TEDDER on

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF 1882.

In each issue of our MONTHLY NOTES we have had arranged, according to language, a record of current library literature, consisting, besides the distinctly official publications—catalogues and reports—of the new works on library history and economy, palæography, bibliography, and the history of printing. As one of the

objects of the Association is stated to be the encouragement of bibliographical research, I venture to think that the endeavour made during 1882 to present to the Members an account of their professional literature has been a step in the right direction, and it is a matter for regret that the limited amount of space at the disposition of the Editor will prevent this feature of our proceedings being extended or continued. The following remarks will be confined to bibliography, as the whole field dealt with in MONTHLY NOTES is much too extensive to be treated in a single paper. I need scarcely trouble the meeting with any remarks on the advantages to be derived by librarians from the study of bibliography, which is now universally assumed to form part of their ordinary professional equipment, and will simply observe that the subject has been considered not merely from an exclusively technical or antiquarian point of view, but as forming a key to the knowledge of books and literature. How extensive the subject has now become may be seen from the fact that during the past year it has received no less than 314 distinct contributions, whether of the nature of separate books, or of lists of books on special subjects, or of more elaborate articles on particular questions. This calculation does not take into consideration the whole of the contents of the bibliographical periodicals, but only the more important of them; neither does it include such regular appearances as the bibliography which is published monthly in the *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society*, nor the reviews of historical works in *Sybel's Historische Zeitschrift*, nor yet such as the lists of new books in the *Bookseller and Publisher's Circular*, the *Bibliographie de la France*, the *Allgemeine Bibliographie*, Hinrichs' half-yearly *Verzeichniss der Bücher, Landkarten, &c.* The annual bibliographies of special subjects and the various excellent German special trade-lists of Gracklauer, Mühlbrecht, Wolf, and others, have not been forgotten in the general estimate, but are too well known to need special remark. As most of the books have been noticed in our journal, it is not necessary to give full particulars of them, and in the case of those which have not yet been described perhaps some other opportunity may be afforded of dwelling upon them at greater length.

I shall not attempt a complete index to the bibliography of the year, but shall merely endeavour to point out, as briefly as may be, the extent and variety of the work accomplished in the various branches of the subject during the space of the past twelve months. Nor do I profess to have abstracted (were, indeed, this worth doing) the whole contents of the class-periodicals during the same period. Those journals which, however, deserve mention are: in this country, *Notes and Queries*, the *Bibliographer*, the *Antiquarian Magazine and Bibliographer*, and the *Bookseller;* in America, our valued contemporary the *Library Journal*, the useful Monthly Reference Lists of Mr. Foster, besides the Bulletins of the Boston Public Library, and of Harvard, Peoria, Philadelphia, &c.; in France and Belgium there are *Polybiblion*, *Le Livre*, the *Bulletin du Bibliophile*, and *Annales du Bibliophile Belge;* the excellent *Neuer Anzeiger* of

Petzholdt, in Germany; in Italy, *Il Bibliofilo*; and in Hungary the *Magyar Könyv.-szemle Közre bocsatja.*

As mentioned above, the grand total of the bibliography of 1882 amounts to about 314 articles, of which the United Kingdom has contributed 57; America 56; France 59; Belgium 15; German-speaking people 81; Italy 27; and Spain and other countries 19. Throwing the titles into classified order, we then find that 1 may be placed in philosophy; 9 in theology; 28 in sociology; 97 in history; 19 in the natural sciences; 23 in the useful and fine arts; and 137 in literature.

In PHILOSOPHY the only title to record is the bibliography of the writings of Antonio Rosmini-Serbati by Mr. T. Davidson.

In THEOLOGY the most important item is the new German "Theologische Jahresbericht," edited by B. Pünjer, with the assistance of competent specialists. Our Cambridge member, Dr. J. B. Pearson, brought out a list of the Greek authors in Migne's Patrologia; the *Bibliographer* supplied two articles on the Genevan and Bishop's Bible by the Rev. N. Pocock; and lists of works on the Thirty-nine Articles have appeared in *Notes and Queries*. In *ecclesiastical history and archæology* an edition of Schaff's "History of the Christian Church" may be mentioned; it contains carefully selected lists, revised by Prof. Ezra Abbot, of Cambridge, U.S., of works on the topics discussed. There have also been the first part of a bibliography of French protestant literature, which will be regularly supplied by M. de Schickler to the *Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire du Protestantisme Français*; a work by M. Ch. de Lama on the Benedictine writers of the Congrégation de St. Maur; and "Istochniki Russkoi Agiografii" (Sources of Russian Hagiography) by Mr. Nikolai Barsakof.

To SOCIOLOGY the class of *folk-lore* may serve as a kind of introduction; and here we observe for the first time annual bibliographies in the "Almanach des traditions populaires," and in the *Archivio per lo studio delle tradizioni populari*. Mr. G. L. Gomme commenced a list of English publications in the fifth volume of the "Folk-Lore Record," and MM. H. Gaidoz and Paul Sébillot have given the result of their labours on the popular traditions of Alsace and Brittany. *Law* has been enriched by a subject-index to books and leading cases by Mr. J. H. Converse, of Baltimore; by a fourth and enlarged edition of Wallace's "Reporters"; and by the general catalogues of Mr. H. G. Sweet and Messrs. W. Gould & Son. Mr. J. Griswold contributed a bibliography of insurance law to the *Insurance Times* for April, and a list of books and articles relating to literary property, copyright, &c., by M. Thorvald Solberg, appeared in several numbers of the *Publisher's Weekly*. The first part of a bibliography of Belgian law since 1814 by MM. E. Picard and F. Larcier has been issued, and the *Archivio Storico Lombardo* (fasc. xxxv.) contained a list of the statutes of Valle Gandino. In *politics*, Hildebrandt's "Bibliographie der Staats- und Rechtswissenschäft," between 1871 and 1881, deserves first mention; a notice of the literature of the year is contained in "L'Année politique," by A. Daniel. To *public*

administration belong a list of official publications issued by Congress and the U.S. Government between 1867 and 1881, and a bibliography of works on local government by Mr. G. L. Gomme. *Social organisation* includes a list of works relating to woman's work among the poor and the sick by A. Sohr, and an account of works on charity and kindred subjects by J. N. Larned appended to a handbook of charity organisation by S. A. Gurteen. In speaking of *political economy*, the late Prof. W. Stanley Jevons' valuable list should not be forgotten. As to *education*, a list of English books on teaching appeared in the *School Bulletin* (U.S.), and a description of works illustrating German student life in a work on the subject by A. Pernwerth von Bärnstein.

In HISTORY the manual of Professor C. Kendall Adams deserves the place of honour; the historical reference-lists of another American professor, John T. Short, are of a similarly didactic character. A well selected list of books of reference was appended by Mr. C. J. Stillé to his "Studies in Mediæval history." In *Ancient history* we had A. Schaefer's "Abriss der Quellenkunde der Griechischen u. Röm. Geschichte," and a bibliography of Sejanus by Jo. Jülg. *English history* leads off with Professor W. F. Allen's "Reader's Guide," and Miss C. M. Hewin's list of works suitable for children in the Bulletin of the Hartford Library Association. The topography of Norfolk has been indexed by Mr. W. Rye; a specimen of Devonshire bibliography came out in the *Western Antiquary* for March; and a notice of books on the Highlands was appended by Professor J. S. Blackie to his "Altavona." The *Annuaire-bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire de France* supplied the usual excellent bibliography of the *French history* of the year; the bibliography of Paris before 1789 has been undertaken by M. V. Dufour, and in local bibliographies we have had the new "Dictionnaire du département de l'Eure," the "Bibliographie Périgourdine" of De Roumejoux, the "Bibliographie Champenoise" of Léon Techener, and that of Juvigny-sous-Andaine by MM. Jules Appert and Comte Gérard de Contades. To *Belgian history* has been added the new "Bibliothèque historique de la Belgique," and a sixth volume of the great "Table chronologique des chartes et des diplômes imprimés" (1280-1300) of M. A. Wauters. As regards *German history* that of Austria specially has been dealt with in the "Grundriss der Oesterreichischen Geschichte" of F. Krones, and of Hungary in the time of the Arpads, by H. Marchiali. A catalogue of works on German family history has been drawn up by H. von Prittwitz u. Gaffron, and bibliographies have appeared of Freiburg and its surroundings as well as of Heidelberg Castle. Signor C. Rinaudo has contributed some articles to *Italian history* and a list of works connected with the sixth century of the Sicilian Vespers was compiled by Signor L. Pedone-Lauriel. In the class of *Eastern history* Dr. F. Wüstenfeld has issued a useful chronological list, with full notes, of all the Arabian historians from the first to the twelfth century of the Hegira. As regards the historical bibliography of other parts of the world Mr. G. M. Theal has been issuing his notes on books relating to South Africa in the *Cape Quarterly*

Review; an account of those relating to New Zealand has been appended by Mr. W. D. Hay to his work, "Brighter Britain"; and of those connected with the "Hermit-Nation," by Mr. W. E. Griffis to his book on Corea. *Geography* has been provided with a useful addition by the Harvard University Bulletin, in the shape of an index to the maps in *Petermann's Mittheilungen.* A list of travels in the Holy Land, 1788-1882, by Mr. W. H. Sewell, has been coming out in *Notes and Queries.* The African literature of between 1500 and 1750 has been dealt with by P. Paulitschke, and Mr. Stanford has furnished a list of authorities to his new map of central equatorial Africa. Among *antiquarian* bibliographies the list of works on chronograms, appended by Mr. J. Hilton to his book on the subject, may be mentioned. Coming to *individuals* I have thought the simplest plan will be to give a bare list of the subjects, whether of books relating to these individuals or written by them, in alphabetical order. They comprehend Count Cesare Balbo, Baluzius, Comte de Bastard, Card. de Bernis, G. Botero, Père Joseph Bougerel, Robt. Browning, Abate Fr. Cancellieri, Merlin Coccai, Charles Darwin, Friedrich Dedekind, Aug. De Morgan, R. W. Emerson, J. P. von Falkenstein, B. Franklin, S. Franscini, F. Freiligarth, Père J. X. Gagarin, Gilbert, J. W. von Goethe, N. Hawthorne, V. Hugo, W. S. Landor, L. Leopardi, Dom Maugérard, L. H. Morgan, Murmellius, A. de Musset, F. Pananti, J. Quicherat, Dr. G. M. Redslob, C. M. Riccio, A. Rosmini-Serbati, Comte de Saulcy, R. Simon, H. Spencer, L. Vedriani, Voltaire, D. Webster, J. G. Whittier, and the Comte de Widranges.

The only general contribution to NATURAL SCIENCE is a list of works on natural history and science suitable for a public library which appeared in the *Literary World* (New York), for October 21. In *Astronomy* we have had the account of Sir W. Herschel's writings, compiled by Messrs. E. S. Holden and C. S. Hastings for the Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution, and the articles on the plurality of worlds in successive numbers of *Notes and Queries.* *Geology* has included the enlarged issue of the "Geological Record" and the list of American authors in geology and palæontology in the Harvard University Bulletin. A bibliography of gold was included in "Gold, its occurrence and extraction," by A. G. Lock. *Climate* has been treated by Mr. A. Ramsay (Scientific Roll, part I.) In *botany* we have had the index of vegetable technology by Mr. B. D. Jackson, and the Diatomaceæ formed part of Mr. J. Deby's new catalogue of microscopic literature. A bibliography of 1,500 works necessary for the systematic study of *zoology* is appended to the "Naturalist's Assistant" by Mr. J. S. Kingsley; a list of works on the fishes of the Pacific Coast was contributed by Mr. Th. Gill to the Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum, a similar list on fossil insects appeared in the Harvard University Bulletin. A bibliography of works on the Tunicata was added by Prof. Herdman to his contribution to the "Report of the Challenger Expedition." *Anthropology* was the subject of a contribution by Mr. O. T. Mason to the last Report of the Smithsonian Institution.

Medicine may oe placed first among the USEFUL ARTS, and in this class fall a select list by G. Szelinski, in German, and the third volume of the great catalogue of the U. S. Surgeon-General's Department. In *engineering* we have had a list of railway periodicals by F. Woaz; and one of the literature of the St. Gothard, 1844-82, by E. Motta. In *military subjects* there is the first part of a new *Revue mensuelle du bibliophile militaire;* a German work on military journalism by Hauptman von Hirsch; and a bibliography of the campaigns for Italian independence in the *Revista Militare Italiana.* A catalogue of the chief works on *nautical literature* from the invention of printing to the end of the 17th century was appended to "Studien über die Entwickelungsgeschichte der Schifffahrt," by E. Gelcich. In *agriculture* there have been the Italian bibliography of vine culture and wine-making, by G. Sormanni; that of tea and theine in the "Tea Encyclopædia;" and that of bee keeping by F. Beltramini di Casati. The FINE ARTS include the bibliography of Dutch and Belgian *painting* and *engraving* by M. J. F. van Someren, and the bibliography of *keramic* literature by F. Jaennicke. In *music* the eighth volume of Hofmeister's "Handbuch" (1874-9); the third and enlarged edition of the catalogue of Mendellsohn's printed works; a Weber bibliography, by A. Reismann; and an enlarged edition of Brähmig's "Ratgeber." *Fencing* and *angling* have been treated in the "Bibliographie de l'Escrime" of Vigeant, and in Mr. John Bartlett's catalogue.

LITERATURE is the most comprehensive division. Among general works we may place for greater convenience, Bornmüller's "Biographisches Schriftsteller-lexikon der Gegenwart," and H. C. Bowen's descriptive catalogue of historical novels and tales. In *philology* we notice W. Pökel's "Philologisches Schriftsteller-lexicon;" Trübner's "Catalogue of Grammars and Dictionaries;" and the lists of works supplied in "Die Deutsche Philologie," by von Bahder. In *Greek* and *Latin* literature, the eleventh edition of "Histoire de la Littérature Grecque," of A. Pierron has had an additional bibliographical appendix; a tabular view of the translations of Homer, 1495-1881, has been compiled by Dr. A. Schroeter; the Prix Brunet for 1882 was awarded to for a bibliography of Aristotle by M. M. Schwab; Dr. E. Preuss completed his eighth edition of Engelmann's "Bibliotheca Scriptorum Classicorum" by the publication of his elaborate volume on the Latin authors, and a "Primo saggio di catalogo Virgiliano" was put forth by the Accademia Virgiliana in commemoration of the nineteenth centenary of Vergil's death. In *Oriental literature,* there have been the usual reviews of the German and Royal Asiatic Societies; but, like the "Bibliotheca Orientalis," these also belong to the bibliographies which are published each year, and which I have not thought necessary specially to mention. *English literature* has been enriched by the second series of Mr. W. Carew Hazlitt's "Bibliographical Collections and Notes (1474-1700)," and by the third volume of the "English Catalogue (1872-80)." In the first part, devoted to poetry, of Prof. J. Baldwin Brown's "Introduction to the Study of English Literature" the author added reference-

lists of authorities; Mr. H. Wyman has given his account of the Bacon-Shakespeare literature; Mr. J. Ashton dealt with the chap-books of the eighteenth century; and the editions of "Mother Shipton" were described by Mr. Axon. There have also appeared lists of editions of "Junius' Letters" in *Notes and Queries;* of English translations of Faust, by Mr. W. Heinemann; of the issues of the press in Pennsylvania between 1685 and 1734, by Mr. C. R. Hildeburn; of the books published and sold on old London Bridge, *in Notes and Queries;* and of the Manchester books of 1881, by Mr. C. W. Sutton. *French literature* includes the following new periodicals: a *Bulletin mensuel des récentes publications françaises* connected with the Bibliothèque Nationale; *Bibliographie raisonnée et pratique, guide du libraire-antiquaire;* and a new series of *Le cabinet historique.* We have had a work on homonymous writers, "Récreations bibliographiques, par Loudolphe de Vermonde," and a second series of "La curiosité littéraire et bibliographique." M. L. Mohr published the first fruits of his investigations in the literature of Ana in the shape of an introductory essay; a new edition has appeared of "Les grands poètes français," by A. Pagès, with bibliographical notes; M. G. Brunet issued some notes on Rabelais in Germany and England; a list of translations of the Maximes of La Rochefoucald came out in the *Annales du Bibliophile;* the *Neuer Anzeiger* contained a similar list of the recent French Lessing-literature; and an account of the periodicals of Brittany was commenced by M. René Kerviler in the *Bibliophile Breton. Belgian literature* comprehends the continuation of the valuable "Bibliotheca Belgica" of M. Ferd. van der Haeghen; the important national bibliography "Dictionnaire des écrivains belges (1830-80)"; a new periodical, *Bibliographie Belge;* and a list of the periodicals received by the chief libraries of the kingdom. An index to the *German literature* from 1876 to 1880 was given in Hinrichs' "Repertorium"; the *Neuer Anzeiger* contained an article on Faust-literature; Freiherr von Biedermann has issued a supplement to Hirzel's "Verzeichniss einer Goethe-Bibliothek"; the letters of the poet have been the subject of a special index-catalogue; and recent Goethe, Schiller, and Lessing-literature have also been catalogued. The academical dissertations of Germany and Austria were indexed by Dr. E. Peters. For *Spanish literature,* the great "Diccionario general" has been completed; and to that of *Italy* B. Gabrielli has contributed "Studii bibliografici," and E. Narducci a bibliography of the "Rappresentazioni." *Switzerland* has given us an essay by A. Schumann on the authors of that country; in *Holland* there has been "Proeve cener Bibliographie der Nederlandsche Dialecten, door L. D. Petit"; *Denmark* has issued the last part of the "Dansk Bogfortegnelse for aarene 1869-80," and a list of foreign publications relating to the country published during 1880 came out in the *Historisk Tidsskrift;* the eighth volume of the "Bibliografia polska" or bibliography of *Poland,* was issued during the year; and a bibliography of the living authors of *Iceland* was commenced in the Library of Cornell University. *Guides to reading* in special classes have been noticed under those classes: among general works on the subject we may allude to the second

series of "The best reading," by Mr. L. E. Jones; next come Mr. Leypoldt's "Literature of Knowledge"; some notes on reading by Mr. A. Penn which appeared in the *Literary News* for October; and an article on "Bicentennial reading" by Mr. F. D. Stone in the Bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia. The "Catalogue des livres choisis à l'usage des gens du monde" is restricted to French books; but "1000 gute Büche," by Dr. F. Hülskamp, although intended for Catholics only, is a model of what such a book should be. Several useful publications on *juvenile reading* have appeared; they are the "Catalogue of the Pure Literature Society"; "Books for the Young," by Miss C. M. Hewins; Leypoldt's "Books for the Young"; in German, "Katalog für Volksbibliotheken," "Führer durch die Jugendliteratur," by D. Theden, and a third edition of the "Geschichte der deutschen Jugendliteratur" of A. Merget. After books recommended follow *forbidden books.* A list of works suppressed in Germany since 1878, on account of social democratic tendencies, was added to "Das Reichsgesetz," by L. Brandt; and A. J. Servaas van Rooijen published "Verboden bocken, enz. in de 18e eeuw." The most valuable contribution to the class of *bibliography* proper consists of "Das antike Buchwesen," by Th. Birt; the "Urkundenlehre" of F. Leist may also be noticed here. *Early printed books* have been the subject of treatises by M. F. Soleil, "Les heures gothiques et la littérature pieuse aux XVe et XVIe siècles;" and by M. Jules Le Petit, "Bibliographie des éditions originales d'auteurs français du XVe au XVIIe siècles." The works of M. Jules Brivois, "Les livres illustrés du XIXe siècle," and by Champfleury, "Les vignettes romantiques (1825-40)," belong to *illustrated books.* A little work entitled "*Pseudonyms* of Authors," was brought out by Mr. J. E. Haynes. The following may be somewhat irregularly classed under *bibliomania*—a new edition of Burton's "Book Hunter," "La bibliomanie en 1881," by Brunet, Quaritch's catalogue of romances of chivalry, the illustrated catalogue of the Didot sale; and as specimens of English auction-catalogues, those of the Beckford and Sunderland libraries. *Miscellanies* include "Bibliographie des plaquettes romantiques, par Ch. Nauroy;" a new edition of G. Brunet's "Livres perdus;" "Les impressions microscopiques," by C. Nauroy; and "Les livres cartonnés" (*Bulletin du Bibliophile*). The literature of the general *history of printing* has been increased by treatises in German by K. Faulmann and C. Lorck, by "Le livre et le journal," and by a work by Conte G. Manzoni, "De primi inventori delle lettere e stampe." The chief contribution to the history of *printing in Germany*, is "Gutenberg," by J. H. Hessels. Dr. C. Schmidt issued a work on the libraries of Strassburg, which contains an account of the first printer of that city; "Die Presse zu Marienthal im Rheingau" was published by Dr. F. Falk; some articles were contributed to the *Geschichtsblätter für Stadt und Land Madgeburg* on the printing of that place, by Dr. Hülsse; the Nassau books of the Wiesbaden K. Landesbibliothek were described by H. Van der Linde; "Wien's Buchdruckergeschichte (1482-1882)," was produced by A. Mayer; and

some articles by L. Mohr, entitled "Der Jubelfeste der Buchdrucker seit 1540," appeared in the *Oesterr. Buchdruckerzeitung.* Printing in *France* is treated in "Bibliographie Tournasienne," by E. Desmazières, and "Notice sur le premier livre imprimé à Clermont," by A. Vernière. All that *printing in England* has to show is a reprint of the "Boke of St. Albans," 1486, edited by Mr. Blades, with a preface on the anonymous schoolmaster-printer. From *Belgium* we have had the first part of a beautiful book by Max Rooses, on Christophe Plantin, the Antwerp printer. *Italy* sends a work, "La invenzione della stampa, da F. Berlin," in which the discovery of movable types is claimed for that country. Some articles on the printing house of Agnelli, at Lugano (1746-99), by Motta, came out in the *Bolletino della Svizzera Italiana.* The Magyar and French descriptions of the exhibition at Buda-Pesth contains much which illustrates the history of printing in *Hungary.*

This classification, which by the way is not put forward as ideally perfect, shows the extremely diverse character of contemporary bibliography. No kind of criticism has been attempted, as most of the books have already been noticed in the columns of MONTHLY NOTES. Leaving out of consideration the comprehensive division of literature, we find that during the past twelve months English bibliography has been chiefly devoted to history and science; America has had most to show in history and sociology, and has done more work in natural science than any other country; France has been rich in history and biography; Germany in history and the arts; and the chief proportion of Italian bibliographies have fallen in history and biography. As regards the general character of the bibliography produced by each nationality, it may be broadly stated that French writers have applied themselves chiefly to what may be called antiquarian bibliography. The German work, as might be expected, lies principally in the department of special scholarship. The increased attention paid in the United States to technical librarianship has produced a quantity of treatises directing popular reading. The character of English bibliography is more difficult to fix: it partakes of the nature of that of the three countries named, but is less specially antiquarian than the French, less scholarly than the German, and less popularly useful than the American.

In conclusion I must again express my regret that not only does it seem impossible to extend the notices of current professional literature which have appeared in MONTHLY NOTES in the course of 1882, but even those meagre records will have to be dropped, and that, too, at a time when the subject of bibliography is daily increasing in extent and technical importance.

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks was accorded to MR. TEDDER, and the Meeting then adjourned.

THE NEW BODLEIAN CATALOGUING RULES. II.

(*Continued from page* 9.)

Miscellaneous.

36. A dash ordinarily indicates the omission of the preceding heading or title, but following a number it signifies continuation.

37. Entries under the surname only are to precede fuller entries under the same name; where the initials only of the fore-names are given, they are to precede fuller entries with the same initials. DASHES OR ASTERISKS IN NAMES AND TITLES ARE TO PRECEDE LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET.

38 M^{c} and Mc [L. A.—M^{c} and Mc], and the prefixes s., st., ste., M., MME., MLLE., messrs., mr., mrs., DR., are to be arranged as if written in full, Mac, sanctus, saint, sainte, monsieur, madame, mademoiselle, messieurs, mister, mistress, doctor. [L. A.—use capitals for all these words and abbreviations.]

39. The works of an author, AND OTHER BOOKS CAPABLE OF SIMILAR TREATMENT, are to be arranged in the following order, AN INDEX OR CONSPECTUS OF THE ENTIRE ARTICLE BEING PREFIXED WHEN EXPEDIENT:—

(i) GENERAL CROSS REFERENCES.

(ii) COLLECTIONS OF ALL THE WORKS OF THE AUTHOR IN THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE, WHETHER INCLUDING OR EXCLUDING FRAGMENTS, AND WHETHER WITH OR WITHOUT TRANSLATIONS OR COMMENTARIES.

(*a*) DATED EDITIONS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER.

(*b*) EDITIONS WITHOUT DATE AND WITHOUT CONJECTURALLY SUPPLIED DATE: BUT IF KNOWN TO BE OF THE 15TH CENTURY THEY ARE TO PRECEDE THE DATED EDITIONS.

BUT NEW EDITIONS OF A WORK BY THE SAME EDITOR ARE TO SUCEED THE FIRST ENTRY OF AN EDITION.

(iii) TRANSLATIONS WITHOUT THE TEXT, OF COLLECTED WORKS, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER OF LANGUAGES, CROSS REFERENCES BEING INSERTED IN THIS SERIES TO ALL EDITIONS WHICH CONTAIN THE ORIGINAL TEXT AS WELL AS A TRANSLATION. POLYGLOT EDITIONS ARE TO PRECEDE ALL OTHERS.

(iv) COMMENTARARIES, WITHOUT THE TEXT, ON COLLECTED WORKS, IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER. SCHOLIA ARE TO PRECEDE ALL OTHER COMMENTARIES.

(v) SELECTIONS FROM COLLECTED WORKS.

(vi) COLLECTIONS OF TWO OR MORE WORKS OF THE AUTHOR, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER OF THE GENERAL TITLE OF THE COLLECTION; OR, IF THERE BE NONE, OF THE FIRST WORK OF THE COLLECTION. IN SPECIAL CASES ENTRIES WHICH WOULD IN STRICTNESS FALL UNDER THIS DIVISION MAY BE PLACED IN THE SUCCEEDING PARAGRAPH WITH A CROSS REFERENCE.

(vii) SEPARATE WORKS OR ENTIRE PARTS OF A SEPARATE WORK, IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF THE FIRST ISSUES OF THE WORKS;

IN ANY DIFFICULT CASES AN ALPHABETICAL OR OTHER SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT IS TO BE MADE.

(viii) FRAGMENTS OF THE AUTHOR: BUT WHEN A WORK EXISTS ONLY IN FRAGMENTS IT MAY BE ENTERED UNDER PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS.

(ix) (*a*) LEXICONS (*b*) INDEXES AND CONCORDANCES.

(x) DISSERTATIONS, TREATISES, IMITATIONS, &c., WHICH DO NOT FALL UNDER PRECEDING HEADS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER.

(xi) BIOGRAPHIES.

(xii) BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

N.B.—THE PRINCIPLES OF ARRANGEMENT IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS ARE TO BE USED, WHERE APPLICABLE, IN OTHER ARTICLES.

[L. A.—38. The works of an author are to be arranged in the following order:

(*a*) Collected works.

(*b*) Partial collections.

(*c*) Individual works in alphabetical order of titles, under the first word, not an article or a preposition having the meaning of "concerning."

Translations are to follow the originals in alphabetical order of languages.]

40. Biographies are to be entered under the subjects of them, as well as under the writers.

[L. A.—39. Cross-references are to be given from the subjects of biographies or books illustrating the lives and works of individuals to the writers.]

41. The order of alphabetization is to be that of the English alphabet, EXCEPT THAT IN GENERAL I AND U BEFORE A VOWEL ARE TO BE ARRANGED AS J AND V, AND J AND V BEFORE A CONSONANT AS I AND U, WITH SUCH CROSS-REFERENCES AS MAY BE NECESSARY.

42. Headings composed of more than one separate word are NOT to be regarded for purposes of arrangement as a single word.

[L. A.—41. In composite headings the first word is to be alone considered.]

43. Names of places are to precede similar names of persons. [L. A. exactly reverses this.]

44. Titles in foreign characters may be transliterated.

45. The German *ä*, *ö*, *ü*, are to be arranged as if written out in full, *ae*, *oe*, *ue*.

46. Arabic figures are to be used rather than Roman; but Roman figures may be used after the names of ruling Princes and Popes, or to designate the number of a volume OR CHAPTER when followed by a page- OR DIVISION-number in Arabic figures.

47. Designations are to be added to distinguish writers of the same OR SIMILAR name.

48. Prefixes AND TITLES indicating the rank or profession of writers may be added in the heading when they are part of the usual designation of the writers OR OCCUR ON THE TITLEPAGE.

49. The languages in which a book is written are to be stated when there are more than one [L. A.—several] and the fact is not mentioned in the titlepage.

50.*WORDBOOKS, GRAMMARS, AND ALPHABETS ARE TO BE ENTERED under the names of the languages to which they relate, as well as under the names of their compilers and editors—except that, where a wordbook relates to two languages, or dialects, of which one is modern literary English, no separate entry needs to be made in respect of the latter.

51.*Long and important articles are to have an index prefixed, and sub-headings may be added to the main heading in the same line, for convenience of reference.

52.*Among the abbreviations allowable in ordinary entries are: —*afterw.* (afterwards); *anon.* (anonymous); *Aufl.* (Auflage); *Ausg.* (Ausgabe); *Bd.*, *Bde.* (Band, Bände); *ed.*, *éd.* (edition, edited, &c.); *fasc.* (fasciculus, &c.); *fol.* (folio); *foll.* (folios, followed, following); *herausg.* (herausgegeben); *illustr.* (illustrated); *Lief.* (Lieferung); *p.*, *pp.* (page, pages); *pseud.* (pseudonym, pseudonymous); *publ.* (published); *repr.* (reprint, reprinted); *sign.* (signature); *tom.* tomus, tome); *tr.* translated, translation, traduit, &c.); *vol.* (volume, volumen): also *bp.*, *prof.*, *rev.*; and in an imprint *n. d.* (no date), *n. pl.* (no place).

53.*The general rule regulating the use of brackets is that round brackets include notes derived from the work itself, while square brackets include notes of which the matter or form is independent of the work.

54.*Single sermons are to have a note of the text added.

55.*A work written in reply to another is to have at least a cross-reference to it inserted under the first heading of the original work.

56.*When a work is without a titlepage, the contents are to be stated in the words of the head-title, preceded by "[at beginning:—]": if there be no head-title, in those of the colophon, preceded by "[at end:—]." If there be neither head-title nor colophon a short description, in English, of the contents may be substituted, enclosed in brackets.

EDWARD B. NICHOLSON,
Librarian.

Oct. 1882.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BIRMINGHAM.—The annual meeting of the Proprietors of the Birmingham Library was held on Jan. 31, Mr. Sam. Timmins, President, in the chair. The Report announced the continued and increasing prosperity of the Library. The total income for the year was over £2,000. The first half of the new catalogue has been issued, and the other half is nearly ready. The Committee add that they

* 50-56 are all Supplementary to the L. A. Rules.

"especially desire to record their appreciation of the energy, enterprise and zeal displayed by the Librarian." The Meeting having been made special, it was decided to spend £142 in making alterations on the ground floor, but in consequence of some unforeseen difficulties having arisen in the way of carrying out the rest of Mr. Scarse's scheme (referred to in a recent number of MONTHLY NOTES) the Committee on the subject was requested to consider further and report.

COLCHESTER.—At the poll taken at Colchester on Jan. 10, on the question of adopting the Libraries Acts, the votes were: For the adoption, 1,758; Against, 2,010; Majority against, 252.

LONDON: BRENTFORD.—In spite of the enthusiastic and all but unanimous public meeting held at Brentford on the 10th of January, when the votes of the ratepayers came to be taken, the friends of the movement for adopting the Libraries Acts were doomed to disappointment. In accordance with the opinion of counsel, that only those assessed to and actually paying the general district rate were entitled to vote, no papers were issued to compound householders. There appears to be room for doubt whether this opinion was correct, and it would certainly be very desirable that the question should be judicially settled. We are not sorry, therefore, that there is some prospect of an effort to question the legality of the poll thus taken. The effect of the action taken by the Local Board was to reduce the number of voters, and it may be that the exclusion of the compound householders explains the adverse decision of the rate-payers. The papers were collected on Wednesday, 31st January. The result was declared on the following day, when it appeared that the votes—For the adoption of the Acts, 242; Against, 295: majority against, 53. There seems, at all events, no reason why Mr. Morris and his committee should be discouraged from making another appeal to the ratepayers next year.

LONDON: EALING.—The temporary defeat of the Acts at Brentford may be said to be more than compensated by their enthusiastic adoption in the neighbouring district of Ealing without a poll. At the meeting of ratepayers held on January 23rd, under the presidency of the chairman of the Local Board, it was decided, by an overwhelming majority, to adopt the Acts. The credit of this result may be fairly said to be largely due to the example of Richmond and the exertions of Mr. King.

LONDON: METROPOLITAN FREE LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION.—The third annual meeting was held on Friday, January 12th, in the rooms of the National Rifle Association, 12, Pall Mall East; Mr. E. J. Watherston in the chair. The report of the Council and Treasurer's statement of accounts having been adopted, it was moved by Mr. I. Davis, seconded by Mr. H. R. Tedder, and resolved unanimously: "That this meeting express its regret at his resignation of the office of Honorary Secretary by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, and that the best thanks of the members of the M. F. L. A. be offered to Mr. Nicholson

for his valuable services as Honorary Secretary from the foundation of the Association." The following officers were then elected as Council for the forthcoming year, viz.: President, the Bishop of London; Vice-Presidents, Lord Edmond G. P. Fitzmaurice, Lord Aberdare, Sir John Lubbock, Rt. Hon. M. E. Grant Duff, W. Spottiswoode; Members of Council, Hon. E. Lyulph Stanley, Sir W. Frederick Pollock, Sir E. H. Currie, Baron de Cosson, Rev. S. A. Barnett, W. C. Cartwright, T. Cave, I. Davis, Rt. Hon. H. Fawcett, Dr. J. H. Gladstone, Frederic Harrison, Robert Harrison, Jas. Heywood, J. R. Hollond, J. Holms, Thos. Hughes, Prof. L. Levi, Prof. H. Morley, Rt. Hon. A. J. Mundella, E. B. Nicholson, H. Richard, Rev. Dr. J. H. Rigg, Rev. W. Rogers, E. J. Watherston; Secretary and Treasurer, Henry R. Tedder. After passing votes of thanks to the Chairman and Secretary, the proceedings terminated.

MANCHESTER: ATHENÆUM.—At the annual meeting, held on January 31st, the directors announced that the members during the year had averaged 2,709. The issues from the library were 98,684. The additions numbered 657 volumes—making the total number in the library 19,309, being 65 more than at the stock-taking before the fire. Besides this, the subscription books department consists of 489 volumes of the latest books. The board record with regret the death of Mr. Dutton, and announce that Mr. Charles W. Starkie, for several years principal assistant in the library, was appointed his successor.

MANCHESTER: PORTICO. — At the annual meeting of the proprietors held on January 15th, it was reported that the circulation had been 13,370, as compared with 14,643 in the previous year. Mr. Matthew Robinson was reappointed librarian.

NOTTINGHAM.—The Children's Library formed in connexion with the Free Public Libraries was opened on the 10th of January. The Mayor presided at the opening ceremony, and among the speakers were Capt. Starey and Col. Seeley, M.P. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., "for his kindness in presenting to the town so great and beneficent a sum as £500 for the founding of a library for the children of the town." The volumes already in the library number 2,200, and have been selected with great care.

READING.—A Conversazione was given by the Mayor of Reading on Friday, 9th February, in the New Town Hall, on the occasion of the Opening of the Free Public Library, Reading Rooms and Museum. The premises are very handsome and spacious, and form portion of the new municipal buildings recently erected at a cost of over £60,000. The Library commences with about 10,000 volumes of works, of which 9000 are in the Lending, and 1000 in the Reference Library. The Librarian is Mr. W. H. Greenhough, formerly Librarian of the Free Public Library at Stockport.

SALFORD.—In the Manchester papers of January 18th appears a letter from Mr. Alderman Davies, the Chairman of the Free Museum, Libraries and Parks Committee, in which he calls attention to the

work which has been done in Salford since the establishment of these institutions. He points out that the penny rate is only sufficient to keep them in working order, without providing for acquisitions and appeals for general support in contributions of works of highest merit from those who have the means of helping. He adds: "The State maintains museums at the national cost in the three capitals, London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and supports them of course in a certain measure at the expense of the provinces. London, the richest city in the world, allows even the local museum at Bethnal Green to be entirely maintained from the general taxation at a cost of £7000 a year. The poorer cities and towns maintain their own libraries and museums, whilst those of London are provided, not at the cost of London, but of the nation. How long, we may ask, will the provinces be content without a fairer apportionment of the taxes devoted to the advancement of literature, science and art?"

On January 24th Mr. John Plant delivered a Lecture in the Reading Room on "Prehistoric Man," illustrated by numerous diagrams and specimens from the Museum.

SOUTHPORT.—Mr. William Atkinson, J.P., D.L., the munificent founder of the Free Library at Southport, which bears his name, died on the 20th of January, in his 86th year.

TAUNTON.—At a meeting held on January 10th a Committee was appointed for the purpose of securing the adoption of the Libraries Acts. The Committee have issued an address, and four district or ward meetings have already been held. Mr. W. H. K. Wright delivered a lecture on the 7th inst.

The death of Mr. T. D. Sullivan, Librarian to the Royal United Service Institution, has removed from our ranks one of the members of the Organizing Committee, which preceded the Conference of 1877 and the establishment of the Association. Mr. Sullivan also attended the Manchester Meeting. His death took place on the 15th January, at the age of 43. Mr. Sullivan for some time held her Majesty's commission in the 56th regiment. Mr. C. H. Bayley, Hon. Sec. of the Free Library, West Bromwich, was a familiar figure at our annual meetings, and will be missed.

Mr. Cotgreave informs us that his Indicator has been adopted at Newark, and that his Long-Reacher is in use in the Bodleian and other libraries.

At the First Annual Conversazione of the Medical Union Society, held at the Holborn Town Hall on January 21, Dr. B. W. Richardson delivered the inaugural address, in the course of which he offered some advice on the formation of a library, and urged the Society "of all things not to put into it professional books and papers only."

At a public meeting of the inhabitants of Croydon and neighbourhood, held on February 9th, it was decided that the whole of the

ancient palace of the Archbishops of Croydon should be purchased by public subscription, and devoted to the use of a public library and museum, as a memorial of the late Archbishop. A Committee was appointed to carry out these objects.

The Librarian of Thurso has contributed to the *Northern Ensign* some interesting "Notes of a Visit to Glasgow and Liverpool, with a Glance at their large Libraries." After an account of the libraries in the charge of Mr. Barrett and Mr. Mason, to whom Mr. Campbell pays a well deserved compliment, he goes on to describe the splendid collections under Mr. Cowell's care at Liverpool, of whom he writes: "Nothing could excel the hearty welcome we got from Mr. Cowell and his staff. Every facility was given to learn the system adopted for any department of work, and . . . it is not too much to say that the cost of travelling all the way from John o' Groat's to Liverpool will be more than repaid by the excellent lessons any observant traveller can pick up . . . For be it remembered that there is some speciality connected with every institution of the kind, suggesting improvement or modification which may be turned to advantage." We confess that we feel much interested in this visit paid by the librarian of the smallest of the towns in the three kingdoms which have adopted the Acts to the librarian of the largest.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Catalogue of the Library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, Supplement II, Additions to the Library, 1881-2. London: printed for the Society, 1883. 8vo, pp. i.-88.

Prepared with Mr. B. R. Wheatley's usual carefulness and accuracy.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Catalogue of Additions to the Library, 1882. Large 8vo, pp. 11, double coll.

Issued as a "Supplement to the Pharmaceutical Journal and Transactions" for Jan. 6, 1883. Is very carefully prepared.

Nottingham Free Public Libraries. List of Books in the Children's Lending Library: with the Rules of the Library and Reading Room. Price One Penny. Nottingham, 1883. Large 8vo, pp. 20, double coll.

The Books are arranged under the authors when they are known. The Library seems to be very well supplied with the writings of Marryat and Mayne Reid, but we are a little surprised to find the name of Scott, and a good deal surprised to find that of Dickens, entirely absent from the Catalogue.

Reading Free Public Library. Index-Catalogue of the Books in the Lending Library. Reading, 1883. 8vo, pp. x-251, half cloth.

Mr. Greenhough's Catalogue contains references to about 9,000 volumes, on the ordinary index-plan. The subject-matter of many of the principal works is set out. The Library is divided into ten classes, denoted by a mnemonic letter. The book is very neatly printed, and is preceded and concluded by "Bibliographic Memoranda."

Bolton. Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Public Free Library and Museum Committee, 1881-82. [Dated Oct. 19, 1882]. Bolton, 1882. 8vo, pp. 16.

The Committee report a decrease in the issues of 5,632, but this is more than compensated by the diminution of fiction, there being on this head alone a decrease of 6,645. The issues were, in the Reference library, 78,532; in the Lending library, 49,129. The percentage of fiction in the latter was over 75 per cent. The issues at the Little Bolton Branch were, in the Reading-room, 28,278; lent out, 31,753. The additions to the libraries were 1,584 volumes, of which 1,331 appear to have been transferred from the Subscription Library. The number of subscribers for the year was 369, an increase of 4. The amount voted for library purposes was £1,500, and the value of the books received from the Subscription Library £325.

Borough of Bradford. Annual Report of the Free Libraries and Art Museum Committee, 1881-82 ... [Dated 7th Oct., 1882]. Bradford, 1883. 8vo, pp. 28 and wrapper.

The total number of visits made to the various departments during the year was 1,010,322, of which 518,196 were to the central news and reading rooms, 215,470 to the central libraries, and 111,352 to the six branch lending libraries and three branch reading rooms. The number of volumes issued from the libraries was 292,535, of which 67,704, together with 1,134 specifications of patents, were for use in the reading rooms. 4,547 volumes were added to the libraries, 368 being for the reference and art library. The number of volumes now in the libraries amounts to 38,685. The rate produced £3,500. There are appended a balance-sheet and statistics for the eleven years ending Aug. 1882. There is a full table of contents with references to page *and line*, the lines being numbered for that purpose.

Borough of Doncaster. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Borough Free Library Committee, 1882. Presented to the Mayor and Town Council, January 1st, 1883. Doncaster. 8vo, pp. 12.

The issues from the Lending Department were 52,515, being an increase of 2,151 on the previous year. The number of volumes added was 634. A larger News-room is said to be urgently required. The rate produces £378, and the year ends with a balance of £326 14*s.* 8*d.* in hand.

Dundee Free Library. Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council of Dundee. November, 1882. 8vo, pp. 26.

The Library has issued 248,172 volumes during the year—an increase of 1,814 over last year. Of these, 188,748 were from the Lending library, and 59,426 from the Reference library. These numbers do not include the reviews and magazines which are placed on the tables, and the issues would have been larger but for the more stringent enforcement of the bye-laws regulating the admission of boys. The issue of fiction was under 52 per cent of the issues in the Lending Department. Large donations of books were received from the University Club and the Subscription Library. The number of volumes in the Library is now 37,222, of which 7,387 are in the Reference department. The amount received for the year was £2,508 2*s.* 6*d.*, out of which, however, a Museum and Art Gallery are supported.

Hull Subscription Library ... Report of the Committee of the One hundred and Seventh Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1882; with ... List of Books admitted during the past year. Hull. 8vo, pp. 49.

The number of volumes in the Library in August last was 41,268. 597 volumes were added during the year. The number of subscribers for the year was 514, and the income £841 16*s.* 5*d.*

Leeds. Twelfth Annual Report of the Leeds Public Library, 1881-2. Leeds, November, 1882. 8vo, pp. 22, and wrapper.

Mr. Yates reports that the issues were 662,018 vols., showing a decrease of 54,301 vols. upon the previous year—"which may be accounted for by the improved state of trade in the town, and also by the decision of the Committee to discontinue the purchase of three-volume novels." The decrease in the issue of fiction from the Lending libraries was 37,000 volumes. The total number of volumes in the Library is 117,138. The usual elaborate statistical tables are appended, Table X presenting a "Comparative View of work accomplished Leading Public Libraries."

Preston. The Fourth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library and Museum of the Borough of Preston. For the year ending December 31st, 1882. Preston. 8vo, pp. 17.

The issues in the Lending Department showed a continued increase, although the library was closed for a month in consequence of the Guild festivities. They were altogether 92,421. The number of vols. added was 791, making the total number now in the Library, 10,528. The visitors to the reading room averaged 1,375 daily, for a period of one month. The rate produced £1,020. A balance-sheet is appended.

Borough of Salford. Thirty-fourth Annual Report of the Museum, Libraries and Parks Committee, 1881-82. [Dated 31 Oct., 1882]. Salford. 8vo, pp. 27.

The Committee report a decrease in the issues of the Lending Libraries from 392,874 to 365,365—"which is clearly attributable to the want of a larger supply of new books to the Lending Libraries." The entire amount spent in books during the year was £243 18*s.* 3*d.*, and most of these were for the Reference library. The Committee explain that the penny rate is barely sufficient to meet the maintenance of the libraries. The average attendance of readers in the Reading and News-rooms was 1,895. The experiment of a course of lectures intended to show people the use and value of the books and objects in the different departments was quite satisfactory. Full statistical tables are appended to the Report.

Borough of Walsall. The Twenty-fourth Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1881-82. Walsall, 1882. 8vo. pp. 15.

The Committee report that the increase in the issue of books still continues, the total issues for the year being 71,728, averaging 5,977 volumes monthly. During the year 425 volumes have been added to the Library, making the present total 11,430. These figures include the Bloxwich Branch.

Borough of Wigan. Free Public Library. Fifth Annual Report of the Librarian, January 20, 1883. Wigan, 1883. 8vo, pp. 19.

The issues in the Reference Library were 11,017, nearly double those of the previous year. In the Lending Library 51,859 volumes have been issued—a decrease of 6,887. Mr. Folkard explains that "it is not the reading public to whom this decrease is attributable, but simply to the inadequacy of the present library rate to replenish the losses caused by the wear and tear the department is subject to." The average attendance at the News-room was upwards of 800. The attendance on Sundays during the year was 10,097. The volumes added were 896, and the total number of volumes in the library now amounts to 26,228.

From a review of the year "1882," in the number of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for January 6th, we learn that about 500 books and pamphlets were added to the Library of the Society, and there has been a considerable increase in the number of persons using it, both in the daytime and evening, the numbers having been: day, 4,218; evening, 1,510; against 3,447 and 1,249 in the previous year.

A report by the Librarian of the work of the past year at the Thurso Public Library appeared in the *Northern Ensign* for Feb. 1, 1883. As our readers are aware, Thurso is the smallest place in the three Kingdoms that has adopted the Acts. The Library, we are told, still continues its onward progress, and only requires an occasional stimulus, such as fresh supplies of new books. The issues for the year were 6,148, and the number of readers 337.

We learn from the *Academy* that at the annual meeting of the Faculty of Advocates in Edinburgh the Report presented by the Curators stated that there are no arrears of work in any department, the cataloguing, arranging and placing of books being all kept up to date. The single want, that of space, is in course of being satisfied by new buildings now in progress. The total number of books borrowed during 1882, including those issued for reference, was 90,319. The accessions to the library amounted to 18,711, and were thus classified: books received through the London agent, 3,382; direct from publishers, 402; by purchase or gift, 120; pamphlets, 2,015; parts of periodicals, 9,213; pieces of music, 1,685; maps of ordnance survey, 1,150.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CAUTION.

À *propos* of your "caution," you will be interested perhaps to know that some such individual as Mr. T. C. George visited me a few months ago, and stated that he was *sent* by Mr. E. B. Nicholson. I did not, however, think him worth further inquiry. Impostor was written on his face.—J. M. H.

OUR WRAPPER.

I have received the new "Monthly Notes," and am sorry the outside cover is so ugly and vulgar. As the Library Association is connected, through friendly intercourse, with Cambridge and Oxford, could not one of the "blues" be substituted?

[De gustibus *et coloribus* non est disputandum—certainly not with a lady. We shall be glad to know, however, if the opinion of our fair and candid correspondent is generally shared.—ED.]

*** *The Editor regrets that, owing to continued pressure upon his space, he is unable to find room for several communications, and for Notices of Books.*

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—February Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. E. C. Thomas, "Classed Catalogues and the new Classed Catalogue of the German Reichsgericht"—A Distinguished Russian Librarian—Essential Features of a Library Building—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Books—Correspondence—The Liverpool Meeting.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held at the London Institution, on Friday, April 6th, 1883, at 8 P.M., when Papers will be read by Mr. RICHARD GARNETT on "Librarianship in the Seventeenth Century"; and by Mr. GEO. R. HUMPHERY on "Librarians and the Working Classes."

As the List of Members has been recently somewhat "depleted," and it would be unfortunate if the Council had to report a serious decrease in our numbers to the Liverpool Meeting, it is to be hoped that our members will do what they can to enlarge the list of fresh accessions. There are still many librarians and friends of libraries who are not yet to be found on our roll. A new prospectus of the Association is being prepared, and copies will be sent as a matter of course to the Local Secretaries, and to any others who apply for them.

After the present number the MONTHLY NOTES will not be sent to anyone whose subscription for *last* year (*i. e.* 1881-82) remains unpaid, unless the officers are aware that there is no intention to retire from the Association.

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING.

The Sixth Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, March 2nd, at 8 P.M. Mr. H. R. TEDDER in the Chair. The Minutes of the last Meeting

having been read and confirmed, it was announced that the following gentlemen had become Members of the Association: Mr. RICHARD HINTON, Librarian, Birkenhead; Rev. ARTHUR WRIGHT, Librarian, Queen's College, Cambridge; Mr. H. W. WOLFF, St. Michael's, Lewes.

Mr. STEPHEN CHRISTY, Highfield, Davenport, Stockport, having been proposed and seconded at the previous Meeting, was elected a member.

Mr. ARTHUR JOSEPHS, 23, St. Charles's Square, Notting Hill, was proposed for election at the next Meeting by Mr. Allchin, seconded by the Secretary.

The Chairman then called upon the HON. SECRETARY to read a Paper on

CLASSED CATALOGUES AND THE NEW CLASSED CATALOGUE OF THE GERMAN REICHSGERICHT.

TOWARDS the close of last year a very important Catalogue was published in Germany, a country in which, for various reasons, printed catalogues are not published with a frequency at all corresponding to the number and importance of its libraries. This was the Catalogue of the German Reichsgericht or the Supreme Court of Appeal for the various States now united within the Deutsches Reich or German Empire. It appeared to me that this Catalogue was of sufficient importance, even to English librarians, to justify my calling your attention to it at one of our Monthly Meetings, because, although it is a Catalogue of a special, and an almost purely professional library, it presents features of great interest, and may not inappropriately serve as the text of a discussion with more general bearings than might at first sight appear. The catalogue of a presumably well selected library of 41,000 volumes on a special subject naturally excites interest, though, it may be admitted, chiefly in the minds of those who are more particularly interested in the special subject. From a more general point of view the principal feature of interest in this Catalogue seems to be the fact that it is an unusually elaborate classified Catalogue, and it is this aspect of it to which I now wish to call your attention.

The classed catalogue has of late years gone a good deal out of use. With the increasing subdivision of knowledge and specialization of studies, the task of preparing a really good and useful classed catalogue has become more difficult, and the worthlessness of a bad and carelessly prepared one more obvious. For this and other reasons, about which it would be possible to say a good deal if I were anxious to weary you, the classed catalogue, it will probably be generally admitted, is less and less likely to be used in large general libraries. I know that some still maintain the possibility and desirability of preparing them. But the enormous practical difficulties must make the task seem all but hopeless to any but very sanguine people. It is quite true, as Mr. Cutter has pointed out, that many of the very earliest catalogues prepared were classed catalogues. But it is

almost impossible not to agree with Mr. Cutter that some form of index or dictionary-catalogue is, in the case of general collections and for general readers, not only that which is now in practice most frequently preferred, but that it is also (within the same limitations) superior to the others.

But though this may be true of general collections and general readers, there are, I think, some kinds of libraries and some classes of readers calling for the old classed catalogue, executed, of course, with all the improvements which time and experience have been able to suggest. I do not suppose that the classed catalogue would be found equally desirable in all special libraries, but there are certainly, I think, some special libraries in which they will be found peculiarly useful. I mean what may perhaps be better described as *professional* libraries—the collections formed for the use of lawyers, doctors, and other professional men. It is in these libraries, perhaps, that the librarian is most frequently asked, "What books has the library on a given subject?" or, "What are the latest books on a particular subject?" and a catalogue which places this information at once before the inquirers would here therefore be of most value.

Again, it is in such libraries that classification might be attempted with the best prospect of success. They by their nature exclude by far the largest portion of that "miscellaneous" and nondescript literature which it is most difficult to classify, and the classification of which is least worth the trouble it involves. From this point of view my subject connects itself with the wider subject of classification generally. If each of the more important subjects were thus classified by and for those most familiar with it, we should have made the best possible start towards a solution of that problem which the Association has undertaken to attempt to solve—the *best* system of classification; and the attempt ought, it seems to me, to be made from this side. Let us begin by classifying particular subjects, and let them fall in together into a whole, and thus suggest their own system—rather than begin by projecting a general scheme into which everything must be made to fit. We shall then be more likely to work out a scheme which may be the delight of those who know everything in general but nothing in particular, but will only cause grief to the judicious in every particular subject. Could any lawyer, for instance, withhold his laughter when he found a classifier on general principles suggesting that State Trials should not be included in Jurisprudence, but be put under History; or Patent Law under Science and Art, and Copyright under Belles Lettres? Fancy the Trial of Jack Sheppard or the Stauntons gravely treated as History, or still more surprising, Drone and Copinger's dreary treatises on Copyright as specimens of Belles Lettres! Yet we find these suggestions seriously offered in the pages of *The Bibliographer* as improvements upon the arrangement preferred by the rest of the world.

Having thus offered some general considerations, I will now simply call attention to the Catalogue which has furnished an occasion for these remarks.

At the date of the establishment of the Reichsgericht, the library of the former Reichs-Oberhandelsgericht was transferred to the new tribunal, which has its seat at Leipzig. The number of volumes in the Library is about 45,000. The Librarian is Professor K. Schulz, who has prepared the present Catalogue. It is printed in double column, and the main body of it occupies 968 columns.

The Catalogue is first divided into two great divisions—Law Books and General Literature (in which latter term, however, are included the Political Sciences apart from Jurisprudence). The proportion of general literature is not very large, and occupies only columns 861-968 inclusive. The first great division of Law proper is now arranged in the following order. First come general works, including encyclopædias; the bibliography and literary history of law; periodicals; collected works; reports and opinions; and works on the philosophy of law and jurisprudence generally. Classes B, C and D are devoted to Roman law. Class E embraces German law, (legal history and private law). Classes F, G and H are respectively devoted to commercial law and procedure and penal law (including forensic medicine). Class I includes fourteen sections, each devoted to the laws of a particular state included in the German Empire. Class K comprehends constitutional and administrative law, L ecclesiastical and matrimonial law; M, international law. The six remaining classes are devoted to the law of countries outside the German Empire.

If I were discussing the catalogue from a specially legal, instead of a general standpoint, I should be inclined to offer some criticism upon some points in this arrangement, but this would be foreign to my present purpose. Upon the whole, it is only fair to express one's admiration of the very great care and ability which have been bestowed upon the classification. In order to give some idea of the pains which have been spent upon it, I need only mention that each of these main classes is broken up into a large number of sections and sub-sections, and even sub-sub-sections. Thus, the subject of Roman law is divided into eighteen sections, and, further, sixty-one sub-sections, while many of these sub-sections are yet further subdivided. Criminal law, again, has ten sections, thirty-nine subsections, besides a very large number of sub-sub-sections, and even some sub-sub-sub-sections. A very important feature is that the works, even in these minuter sub-divisions, are arranged in order of publication. "The arrangement of the Catalogue," Prof. Schulz writes, "rests upon a thorough systematic classification. Within the different divisons the books are *chronologically* arranged. This method preserves the internal connexion of scientific development, and enables us to perceive the most recent literature of each subject at the first glance."

To the Catalogue are prefixed a "Systematische Inhalts-übersicht," and an "Alphabetische Inhalts-übersicht," while finally it is followed by an "Alphabetisches Register." The first of these, or the systematic Table of Contents, consists of 43 pages, and is followed by an alphabetical list of all the sections, sub-sections, &c., extending

to 17 pages of three columns. The index is also in three columns, and fills 69 pages. It will be perceived therefore that no consulter of this Catalogue need experience any difficulty in at once tracing any particular book, while the student or lawyer who wishes to see what the library possesses upon a given subject, or what are the latest authorities upon it, finds the Catalogue specially arranged for the purpose of promptly answering such enquiries.

It is to this classified and chronological arrangement that I wish to direct your particular attention, and it seems to me to be both interesting and profitable to compare such a Catalogue with anything in this country that can fairly be compared with it. There is indeed nothing in the nature of a special catalogue that has been executed upon a similar plan, and, so far as the subject of law is concerned, none that can fitly be placed by the side of Prof. Schulz's catalogue. The type adopted by those libraries of the Inns of Court which have published catalogues, is the ordinary alphabetical catalogue of authors, with an index of subjects. The classification attempted in these indexes is indeed useful so far as it goes, but has no claims to scientific value. The Catalogue of the Library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society published by Mr. B. R. Wheatley is, perhaps, the best catalogue of a professional library which we can boast of—when we consider the importance of this collection and the merit of the catalogue—and it is essentially upon the same type, except that Mr. Wheatley has very usefully arranged his subject-index chronologically.

It is not necessary to have a dogmatic opinion upon the respective merits of these systems. Each has its advantages, and I have no wish to decide in favour of one or the other; but I hope that this brief account of Dr. Schulz's Catalogue may call attention to a subject which appears to me deserving of consideration.

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper, and the Meeting adjourned.

A DISTINGUISHED LIBRARIAN.

On the 7th of February died Cajetan Andryeevich Kossovich, the well known Russian Savant and Emeritus Professor of Sanskrit at the Petersburg University, who was also a Librarian in the Imperial Public Library. He was to a great extent self taught, and dominated by the thirst of learning, pursued knowledge during his early years, in spite of very scanty means and most discouraging drawbacks. While at the Moscow University he acquired a sound knowledge of Greek and Latin literature, and especially gained an intimate acquaintance with the philosophical writings of his favourite author, Plato. His circumstances, however, compelled him to become teacher, first in the Tambof gymnasium, and subsequently in one of the Moscow gymnasiums. He earned the reputation of a sympathetic and painstaking teacher, devoting much time to assisting his pupils privately, and he is remembered with affection on this account.

A translation of Kühner's Latin Grammar was one result of his occupation in the gymnasiums. He did not, however, confine his energies to the duties of this employment, but while teaching others, enlarged the sphere of his own studies by acquiring a knowledge of the Sanskrit language and literature. Translations from his pen, of portions of the Mahabharata, appeared in the *Russkoe Slovo*, and were distinguished by the excellence of their literary style. Dissatisfied with the career of teacher, he migrated to Petersburg, where he obtained an appointment as Librarian in the Imperial Public Library. In the Capital, he gave Lectures on Sanscrit Studies, then a novelty in the University of Petersburg. Into this work the young Professor threw himself heart and soul. He edited the legend of the Doves from the Mahabharata, with copious explanatory notes as a text-book for tyros in Sanscrit, and undertook, with the support of the Academy of Sciences, the compilation of a Sanskrit-Russian Dictionary, a work which, it is much to be regretted, remains unfinished. Kossovich began now to devote much of his time to the cuneiform inscriptions of Assyria. He edited a sumptuous volume of these inscriptions, with Latin translations and a glossary. This is the work by which he is most widely known. It was, however, the means of casting a shadow over his life. The work was produced on credit at a great expense; Kossovich was sued, and had to appear in Court, and although he was exonerated from the responsibility, the affair fatally influenced his health and spirits. A Hebrew Grammar and Chrestomathy which have been adopted in the ecclesiastical seminaries, were among his more recent publications.

Kossovich was a thorough man of books, unpractical and with little knowledge of the world, and to this his difficulty with his publisher is to be attributed. He was, however, of a singularly kind and philanthropic disposition; he often helped students, not with his counsels only, but often with more material aid, and actively exerted himself on their behalf in various ways. Philology in Russia owes much to Kossovich, and his death will be widely regretted.

H. W.

ESSENTIAL FEATURES OF A LIBRARY BUILDING.

THE leading essential features in the internal structural arrangements of a library-building best adapted to meet the two great requirements of (1) quick service of the public, and (2) saving of space in the storage of books, are (1) the separation of the reading-rooms used by the public from, but with easy access to, the adjoining book-rooms in which the books are stored, and (2) these latter rooms being supplied with rows of standing double presses, not more than 8 feet in height, and, say, some 3 feet apart—one or more, according to the altitude of the building, of such 10 feet high storeys being superposed and similarly furnished with book-presses.

The reading-rooms, as far as could be carried out, should be (1) central, and (2) mutually adjoining. In themselves the first and all important desideratum is that they should be amply lighted (both

by day and night). It need hardly be added that they should be lofty and commodious, and withal attractive and sufficiently heated and ventilated,—lavatories too being readily accessible. The walls of these rooms should not be shelved any higher than at most 8 feet, and this for the reception solely of "books of reference," removable therefrom at pleasure by the public themselves.

Grouped around, but not in such a way as to interfere with the thorough lighting of the reading-rooms, should be the apartments, as far as possible lighted from both sides, for the reception of the rows of the 8 feet high presses (as mentioned), the ends of these presses being towards the windows. Access from one floor to another should be by straight (*not* spiral) stairs, of easy gradient and shallow steps, and of width sufficient to readily allow two persons to pass; there should further be "lifts" at convenient distances, for hoisting and lowering books from one floor to another.

The means of access and the approaches from the reading-rooms to these book-rooms—with a view to abbreviating distances, and therefore saving time and labour—should be as frequent, direct, and ready as might be compatible with avoiding obstruction to the lighting of the reading-rooms. With this end in view, inner open quadrangles, necessary to be left in order to provide light and ventilation for the reading-rooms, might be spanned by a few "tubular bridges," forming so many connecting links (thus being essentially so many corridors, lighted by a few windows along their length), leading from the reading-rooms to the book-rooms, thus at once rendering it possible to proceed from the centre by a short, if not the shortest, radius to any desired point, but also rendering it possible to pass round the ambit of the whole system of the building in a continuous circuit.

A very feasible and highly desirable arrangement in addition might be carried out, by having books stored immediately under the reading-rooms in the central block, access therefrom to the room below being by several (say four) similar straight sets of stairs of easy gradient, which might be actually, so to say, outside the building, that is to say, projecting into the inner open quadrangle (these flights of stairs specially covered, of course, and lighted by a window). It is needless to say that this room should have the standing presses 8 feet high and 3 feet apart as before. It need not be more than 10 feet high, and should be over a basement storey, so as to be dry, as indeed should seemingly, all the lower floors of the building.

The shelves of the presses should be loose and adjustable to various heights, and need not be longer than, say 4 feet. The height of the presses, as mentioned, being restricted to 8 feet, their length would be regulated by the width of the apartment: if it be wide there might be two rows of presses, and this would be best, leaving, say a 3 feet passage down the middle of the apartment; there need not be more than say 20 or 24 inches from the wall (or say room enough for a man to get through with ease); if the room be comparatively narrow, probably there might be only one row of presses, the distance from the wall at either end should then be say $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

In all cases the ends of the presses should be towards the windows. It is not suggested, at least as a rule, that the outer walls should be shelved, though doubtless in some quarters partition-walls might often be advantageously so utilized. It may be an open question whether the presses had better be of wood or of iron. In any case the "buttons" to adjust height of the shelves, and the holes into which they fit should be "countersunk"—if of iron the corners should be covered with leather—both precautions being to avoid lacerating the books. The lowest of the shelves should be of depth sufficient to take in folios, then, leaving a ledge above, the shelves should recede so as to be adapted to 8vos. and the smaller sized volumes.

Mention has been made of reading-*rooms* (in the plural number), and this because having two or three minor rooms for readers besides the great general reading-room would afford, as it has always been found, the greatest amount of public advantage and convenience; one of these, but still not too small, should be devoted to lady-readers; another to a certain few, for purposes of more exclusive or prolonged study.

The librarian's office should be if possible adjoining the general reading-room.

Whether it would be necessary to allocate apartments for a resident caretaker of the building may be a question; it would seem, however, to be desirable. If so determined, these apartments should be at points the most remote from the reading-rooms and surrounding book-rooms; topmost rooms of the building would afford bedrooms.

It may be almost unnecessary to add that there should be one or two small lock-up by-rooms for stores of various sorts, for books set apart for the binder, &c.; and, hereafter, it might be desirable to allocate a lower room for a *bindery*, should the authorities find it advantageous to have the binding done on the premises.

It will be seen that this arrangement saves time and labour, and accomplishes the incalculable boon of abolishing the use of ladders and of galleries, and last not least, very greatly adds to the storage capacity.

WM. ARCHER.

LIBRARY NOTES.

DUBLIN.—As a result of the movement which has been carried on in Dublin to secure an extended site for the proposed new National Library and Museum of Art, Earl Spencer has announced that the Treasury has agreed to the proposal. His Excellency also announces that preparations are being made for a fresh competition for the designs of the buildings to be erected. The Library will be provided with a separate building, and a space of some 20,000 square feet will be available for the purpose. It is to be hoped that the new building may be constructed on the "rational" principles, for which Mr. Archer has contended.

At the last meeting of the Town Council the following resolution was carried, and a Committee appointed accordingly:—"That a Committee be appointed to consider and report as to the extent to which it would be desirable to avail of the Public Libraries Act in Dublin, by establishing general libraries in situations convenient for the people, the Committee to consider and report specially as to the adapting of existing buildings to the objects of the Act, and also as to the cost both of putting such a scheme in operation and of maintaining it in the future."

GLASGOW: STIRLING'S AND GLASGOW PUBLIC LIBRARY.—We have received from Mr. Mason one of fifty mounted copies of his articles on this Library, to which we have referred in previous numbers of MONTHLY NOTES. The mounting is very neatly done on specially ruled paper, and a printed titlepage intimates that the articles are reprinted from the *Glasgow Herald*, 1882. A neat cover of boards makes this a very handy little volume, and the idea certainly deserves imitation.

HANDSWORTH: PUBLIC LIBRARY.—At a meeting of the Handsworth Local Board, held on Monday the 12th inst., Mr. J. W. Roberts, assistant at the Swansea Public Library, was appointed to succeed Mr. G. Catlin as Librarian.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—It is understood that the Trustees still have under their consideration the question of an application to the Treasury for the purchase of the Ashburnham MSS., offered to the Museum for £160,000. M. Delisle has claimed the moral right of the French Government to be allowed to purchase the Libri and Barrois MSS. forming part of the collection, on the ground that they were stolen from the French. An old controversy is thus revived, and those of our readers who are interested in it may be referred to the *Times* for the following dates: Feb. 12 (p. 8*a b*, account of the MSS.; 9*c*, leader); Feb. 24 (p. 5*c*); Feb. 26 (p. 5*d*, notice of M. Delisle's paper before the Académie des Inscriptions, 9*c*, leader); March 2 (p. 8*b*, letter from Lord Ashburnham); March 5 (p. 5*d*, M. Delisle's statement to *Times* correspondent); March 10 (p. 6*f*, statement as to M. Libri). The House of Commons has been assured that it will have an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the purchase.

LONDON: INNER TEMPLE LIBRARY.—In consequence of the state of his health Mr. Martin has been compelled to retire from the office of Librarian to the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, and Mr. J. L. Pickering, Sub-Librarian, has been appointed Librarian.

LONDON: ST. PANCRAS FREE LIBRARY.—A meeting was held in the Vestry Hall on March 13, Prof. Henry Morley in the chair, for the purpose of explaining the advantages of the library, and enlisting the support of the inhabitants of the parish. It was announced that in the first year 3,310 volumes had been lent, and in the last, or seventh year, 9,596. There are 420 readers on the books, and the library contains nearly 3000 volumes.

MANCHESTER.—At the meeting of the Manchester Literary Club, on March 5, Mr. Charles W. Sutton read a paper on the Bibliography of Manchester in 1882. Mr. Sutton reported that the number of publications had reached 375, against 365 in 1881, and 393 in 1880. Mr. Sutton still complains of the difficulty of securing any assistance in the preparation of the list from publishers.

OLDHAM: FREE LIBRARY.—Notice is given that the Fine Art and Industrial Exhibition to be held in connexion with the opening of the Free Reference Library, Art Gallery and Museum, will open on the 1st of August, and that forms of application for space may be obtained from the Town Clerk, and must be returned to him not later than March 31st.

OXFORD: UNION SOCIETY.—The electric light has been introduced into the large rooms of the Union Society, at an estimated cost for the installation of £1,250. The Society does not expect to save money by the substitution of electricity for gas, but the books in the library will no doubt benefit by the change.

SALFORD: FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.—Mr. Alderman W. H. Bailey, one of our members, delivered a lecture on the Progress of Systems of Signalling, on March 7th, in connexion with the series of Free Lectures at this institution.

TWICKENHAM: FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—This Library was opened without any ceremony on the 24th of February, the newsroom having been already opened for some time. The Library at present contains over 3000 volumes, and has received many donations.

Mr. C. H. Hopwood moved the second reading of the Free Libraries Bill in the House of Commons on Wednesday the 14th, when Mr. Warton talked the measure out. The next stage, Mr. Hopwood writes, "is fixed for 4th April, but amid the press of public business I fear that the blocking powers of the few who oppose will effectually preclude its passing."

Mr. J. R. Green, best known to us as the author of the "Short History of the English People," died on the 7th inst. at Mentone. Mr. Green was for some time Librarian at Lambeth Palace.

It is announced that the widow of Dr. Guest proposes to distribute copies of her late husband's *Origines Celticæ* to the chief libraries in the country. Applications may be made to her at Sandford Park, Woodstock, Oxon.

Mr. Samuel S. Green, the Chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Public Documents, a letter from whom will be found on another page of our present number, has sent us a copy of a "Report regarding the Publication and Distribution of Public Documents submitted by J. G. Ames, Superintendent of Documents, Department of the Interior, A. R. Spofford, Librarian of Congress, and Spencer F. Baird, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, in compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, adopted August 8, 1882." The Report is dated December 22nd, 1882, and contains,

besides the report itself, a compilation of the laws governing the printing and distribution of public documents, and a tabulated statement of the documents of the 46th and 47th (1st Session) Congresses, showing their number, distribution and cost. There is also added a proposed Bill and Resolutions dealing with the subject. The reports observe that "after repeated inquiry it has been found that of the principal libraries of the country not more than one in eight is supplied by Congress with documents published for general distribution. This fact alone indicates the importance of some permanent provision of law in their behalf." The plan proposed does not involve any radical departure from the existing system, but proposes an arrangement by which, without any increase in the numbers printed, the work of distribution may be simplified and harmonized, and the requirements of libraries better provided for.

The January number of the *Harvard University Bulletin*, besides the usual records and accession lists, contains an instalment of the Classified Index to Maps in Petermann's *Mittheilungen*, and the first instalments of a Bibliography of Ptolemy's Geography by Mr. Justin Winsor. A catalogue of the Carlyle Collection, bequeathed to the Library by Carlyle, is also begun, and the books relating to "Oliver Cromwell" are here catalogued. Carlyle's MSS. notes are, for the most part, unimportant and disappointing. The cataloguer has supplemented them with long extracts from the printed writings of Carlyle.

We find in the number of *Church Bells* for February 24, an article on "Free Libraries," signed "H. H. M." calling attention to the need for the extension of the libraries. The writer observes that "a survey of the Public Free Library movement in our country proves that its growth lays far behind the requirements of the age [with which we may agree] and its development in other countries [with which we certainly do *not* agree, so far as the old world is concerned]."

It appears to be a habit of the King of Norway to make presents of books to libraries in the country districts. A gift of books having been recently sent to the library of the district of Stiernerö, the independent inhabitants of the district have passed a resolution, "that they deem it advisable, although there are in the present collection books which we gratefully would have received, to return everything."

It is reported from Madrid that the Minister of Public Works has been authorized to treat for the purchase by the State of the Library of the late Duke of Ossuna. The Library is said to be the finest collection of books and MSS. in Spain, and is valued at £200,000.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Catalogue of the Birkenhead Free Public Library . . . Birkenhead, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.-368. hf. bds.

Part I is a catalogue of the Lending Department, part II of the Reference Department, and part III is an Index of Names to Lending Library. The books are arranged in classes. The catalogue is printed in double columns.

Borough of Nottingham. Free Public Libraries. Class List (No. 1) of Books in the Reference Library. K. History, Government Record Publications. 8vo, pp. 32. Price One Penny.

Mr. Briscoe has enclosed the List of Record publications, issued by the Record office and the Stationery office, in a brilliant wrapper, and issues it to his readers at the price mentioned.

Borough of Birmingham. The Twentieth and Twenty-first Annual Reports of the Free Libraries Committee. On the years 1881 and 1882. Birmingham, 1883. 8vo, pp. iv.-126.

No report having been issued for 1881, in consequence of the transitional state of the libraries, the statistics for that year are included in the present report, which also contains a full account of the proceedings in connexion with the opening of the restored libraries on June 1, 1882. The new Reference Library has already attained the number of 50,000 volumes, exclusive of patents. The Shakspeare Memorial Library now contains 4,390 volumes. The issues in the Reference Library for 1881 were—week-days, 226,708; Sundays, 20,742, total 247,450; for 1882 (the library being closed for considerably more than a month)—week-days, 202,179; Sundays, 25,095, total 227,274. The issues in the Central Lending Library were for 1881—181,568 (the proportion of fiction being about 59 per cent.), for 1882, library being closed for six weeks, 186,988. The number of volumes in the library is 21,394. The entire number of volumes in all the libraries, including four branch libraries, is 98,900, and the aggregate issues from all these collections for the year 1882 was 622,842, of which 25,095 were issued in the Reference Library upon Sundays. The receipts for the year 1882 were £7,413 1s. 9d., including £6,392 2s. 6d. from the rate, and the amount expended was £13,295 18s. 4d., the difference being made up out of the money received from the Insurance Fund and accumulated income.

Blackpool. The Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Blackpool, for the year ending 4th November, 1882. Blackpool. 8vo, pp. 8.

The income, including balance from last year, was £597 1*s.* 8*d.*, the rate for the year being £430. The expenditure was £370 0*s.* 6*d.* The number of books in the library was 3,349. The issues for the year were 26,091, the proportion of fiction amounting to 86 per cent.! The visits to the reading-room and reference library were 42,727.

Borough of Plymouth. Sixth Report of the Free Public Library and News-Rooms Committee. . . . Presented to the Town Council, February 14th, 1883. 1882. Plymouth, 1883. 8vo, pp. 34 and wrapper.

The total income was £876 16*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure within £3 of the income. The library now contains 15,519 volumes and pamphlets, exclusive of the Patents. The total issues were 182,321, being a considerable advance upon any previous year. Of these 155,226 were in the Lending and 27,095 in the Reference Department. A list of additions for the year and various statistical tables are added. The want of increased accommodation is much felt. A day census showed that 1,687 persons visited the news-rooms in one day.

York Subscription Library. Appendix to the General Alphabetical Catalogue for the Year 1882. York, 1883. 8vo, pp. 18.

On p. 2 is printed the "eighty-ninth" annual report, in which the committee announce that the number of volumes circulated was 26,296, besides magazines. The volumes added were 276. The income from subscriptions, &c., was £461 16*s.* 6*d.*, and the year closed with a balance of £14 due to the treasurer.

The sub-committee appointed to inquire into the condition of the Public Library, &c., at Northampton have recommended that no

formal report should be issued this year. From information furnished by the hon. sec., however, which has already appeared in a local newspaper, we gather that the progress of the library has not been satisfactory. This is considered to be partly due to the totally inadequate stock of current and popular works. Of the 9,500 volumes upon the shelves, many are said to be imperfect or dilapidated, and no scientific works have been added to the library for thirty years. It has been decided to appeal to the public for contributions towards supplying modern works and printing a new catalogue. The issues for 1882 were, in the lending department, 11,428, of which 9,767 were fiction and poetry; in the reference department, 626. A very large proportion of the borrowers are very young, and not more than twenty of either sex over twenty-five years of age are using the library. There is a better account of the reading-room, and 52,000 persons, it is estimated, visit it during the year.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

An Index to Periodical Literature, by William Frederick Poole, LL.D., Librarian of the Chicago Public Library. Third Edition, brought down to January, 1882, with the assistance as Associate Editor of William I. Fletcher, Assistant-Librarian of the Watkinson Library, Hartford, Conn., and the co-operation of the American Library Association and the Library Association of the United Kingdom. Boston and London, 1882. Roy. 8vo, pp. xxvii., 1442, double coll.

We are glad to offer a hearty welcome to this imposing volume, although in our limited space it is impossible to say all that we should like to say of it. We may be allowed here, however, to say that we regard it as a great monument of unpaid and public-spirited co-operation, and, we might add, a practical refutation of Bacon's saying that "charity will hardly water the ground where it must first fill a *pool*." For the public spirit and enthusiasm which have animated Dr. Poole have extended themselves to no less than fifty institutions or individuals, who between them have indexed no less than 4,103 volumes of periodicals. Dr. Poole himself is responsible for one-third of the whole number of volumes indexed, the total amounting to 6,205. The number of volumes indexed on this side of the water is indeed only 153, Mr. J. T. Clark heading the list with 56 volumes, and Mr. Robert Harrison carrying off the wooden spoon with two volumes. The English contribution is smaller, no doubt, than might have been expected, when we remember that out of the 232 periodicals here indexed 90 are English publications. But it must be borne in mind that the American contributors had the first opportunity of selecting their work, and that many of the periodicals thus left were the less common and less generally interesting publications. I think it not unreasonable, as a member of the English committee on Mr. Poole's Index, to offer this explanation here, in addition to those made by Mr. Poole himself in his preface (p. vi). It is worth while to note Mr. Poole's strong testimony to the co-operative principle, which he declares to be "simple, effective, and attended with no embarrassments or difficulties of any kind. I have doubt whether a society organisation, with its officers, committees, and ample funds for the payment of workers, could bring about more effective results." Certainly, all the work done by the Index Society figures very poorly by the side of that accomplished by Mr. Poole and his fellow-workers. Mr. Poole calls attention to the fact that at the meeting of the A. L. A. in May last he "suggested a general index to books other than periodicals." It may be remembered that I wrote a paper on this subject for

our Oxford Meeting in 1878, and I ought perhaps to say that I have by no means abandoned the idea of carrying out the plan. E. C. T.

The Publishers' Trade List Annual, 1882. . . . Tenth Year. New York, F. Leypoldt, September, 1882. Imp. 8vo, pp. 8-xxxii-130-44+.

This is the American equivalent—and indeed somewhat more than an equivalent—for the English Reference Catalogue. It is a bulky volume of well towards 2,000 pages, the greater part of it consisting of American publishers' catalogues arranged alphabetically. These, however, are preceded by, 1, an index to contributors and advertisers; 2, index to publishers of special lines; 3, an Annual Record of Books, 1881-82, with an index; and, 4, a Catalogue of American Educational Works for 1882.

Index to the Journal of the Society of Telegraph Engineers and of Electricians. Vols. I.-X: 1872-1882. Compiled by Alfred J. Frost, Librarian. London and New York, 1882. 8vo, pp. 63. Price 2*s.* 6*d.*

A useful addition to the list of indexes which have been separately published. The names of authors and of subjects are printed in distinctive types.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS TO LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

Worcester, Mass., Feb. 26th, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,—I see that you are interested in obtaining information regarding measures that are proposed for securing in the United States a distribution of Public Documents more satisfactory to librarians than that made at present.

I therefore mail you herewith a copy of a report, bill and resolutions proposed by order of Congress at its last session and presented to Congress at its present session.

The report, &c., are evidently the work of Mr. Ames, a gentleman who is very much in earnest in the matter of trying to secure legislation that will enforce a proper distribution of documents.

As chairman of a committee of the American Library Association, I have written to members of the Senate Committee on Printing, urging the passage of Mr. Ames's bill and resolution, and, at my request, a number of other librarians of leading libraries of the country have also written to members of this committee.

I think, however, that there is no chance of legislation on this matter in the present session, as it closes March 4, and Congress has a large amount of important unfinished business now under consideration.

By continual agitation librarians believe that they will finally get what they desire. Very truly yours,

SAMUEL S. GREEN.

STATISTICS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

I must apologise for writing in this apparently inconsequent way, after allowing the statement to which I now wish to call

attention to pass unchallenged not only at the February meeting, but also in the proof of Mr. Credland's paper. But it did not, in fact occur to me that there was anything in it to remark upon until I came to read Mr. Credland's interesting paper with more deliberation. The statement I wish to challenge, with Mr. Credland's permission, occurs at the top of p. 19 of the February NOTES: "There are now nearly 100 rate-supported libraries in Great Britain, containing over 3,000,000 volumes." The number of places in which the Acts have been adopted I believe to be one or two over, rather than under, the hundred; but there are not, I believe, quite 100 libraries actually working. So far, therefore, Mr. Credland seems to me to be entirely right. But I feel sure that his estimate of 3,000,000 volumes is a great deal too high. It would mean an average of 30,000 volumes per library. I believe, from the data in my possession that the true number is barely 1,600,000, and *certainly* not much beyond that figure.

May I ask, while I am writing on this subject, whether the statement can be correct which I find in the address issued by the promoters of the Free Library movement at Taunton (which is nearly identical with the address issued at Brentford the other day), viz., that Penzance is one of the smaller towns which have adopted the Acts? I was not aware that the Acts have been adopted there, and I should like to know if it is so.

ERNEST C. THOMAS.

CAUTION.

Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn Street,
Feb. 27, 1883.

With respect to "Mr. George," I may mention that he called at my private residence twice, and each time late in the evening. I have no idea how he found out my private address. He introduced himself by mentioning the name of the Curator of this Museum, and, although I rather doubted him, he succeeded in enlisting my sympathy. He said he had been engaged in library work up in the North, and he mentioned that he was known by Mr. Axon, Mr. Mullins, and others. He told a piteous tale of walking about the streets all night with his young wife.

Our Curator he favoured with a visit on Christmas Day, and, being then successful, he sent his wife about a fortnight after with a letter stating that he wanted to raise a little money to enable him to visit Manchester, on account of Mr. Axon having got for him some baronet's library to arrange.

Shortly after that I heard from Mr. Dallas, of the Geological Society, that George had called on him; and I also heard that he had called on Mr. Walter White, of the Royal Society.

All these visits (except one) have been made at night, and not at the offices, or during office hours.

THOMAS WM. NEWTON.

THE LIVERPOOL MEETING.

OUR members will be interested to learn that the arrangements for the next annual meeting at Liverpool are being actively made. A preliminary meeting for the purpose of forming a Local Committee was held in the Town Hall on March 5th. Sir James Picton presided, and there were present the Mayor of Wigan (Mr. Alderman Park), the Mayor of Bootle (Mr. J. Webster), the Revs. J. W. Diggle and H. Becke (vice-principal of Liverpool College), Alderman Samuelson, Councillors I. Davies, Muspratt, Lunt, and Holder; Lieut.-Colonel Pilkington, Captain Waterhouse, Messrs. J. A. Tinne, H. T. Folkard (librarian, Wigan), G. L. Campbell (Wigan), C. W. Sutton (librarian, Manchester), D. Geddes (librarian, Blackburn), J. D. Buckland (librarian, Stockport), A. Wakefield (librarian Liverpool Lyceum), Joseph Hales, T. J. Moore (curator Liverpool Museum), C. Dyall (Walker Art Gallery), C. Sherlock, P. Cowell (chief librarian, Liverpool), William Brown (Chester Library Committee), W. A. Abram (Blackburn), B. H. Grindley, J. Lovell, Thomas Snape, F. Weville, G. F. Chantrell, Henry Firth, J. W. Scholefield, Dr. Waters, H. R. Lacey (chairman St. Helens Free Library), A. Lancaster (librarian St. Helens Library), Henry Greenwood, Alexander Watt, W. Potter, P. B. M'Quie, J. Southward, J. F. L. Clare, G. G. Walmsley, &c.

It was announced that several gentlemen had been prevented from attending that meeting, and Mr. A. B. Forwood had telephoned from his residence at Gateacre that he was disappointed at not being able to attend. There were also letters from the following gentlemen :—Colonel M'Corquodale, Mr. James Samuelson, Mr. T. Cope, Mr. A. Castellain, Mr. S. Huggins, Mr. Gamble, Rev. S. Pearson, the librarians of the Blackpool and Chester libraries, and of Lord Derby's library at Knowsley, Alderman Hibbert (of Preston), Professor Herdman, and Dr. Nevins.

The Chairman having explained the objects of the meeting, those present resolved themselves into a general committee, and the following were elected on the Executive Committee :—Sir James A. Picton, the Mayor of Wigan, Professor Forsyth, Alderman Samuelson, Rev. W. Bannister, Colonel Pilkington, Messrs. B. H. Grindley, Nevill, E. R. Russell, J. Lovell, G. G. Walmsley, J. A. Tinne, Sherlock, T. Cope, W. J. Lunt, Campbell, J. Samuelson, W. Crosfield, C. Dyall, Moore, Gatty, Potter, J. A. Willox, J. A. Wakefield, M. Guthrie (treasurer), W. J. Stewart and P. Cowell (hon. secs.).

We are glad to hear that there is a good prospect that the forthcoming meeting will be equal to any of its predecessors in usefulness and pleasantness.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—March Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. Geo. R. Humphrey, "Librarians and the Working Classes" — Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held at the London Institution on Friday, May 4th, 1883, at 8 P.M., when Papers will be read by Mr. RICHARD GARNETT on "Librarianship in the Seventeenth Century"; and by Mr. HENRY WILSON on "An Old English Text (The Speculum Vitæ Christi)."

The attention of members is particularly called to Article 4 of the Constitution, by which the annual subscription for 1882-83 becomes "due in advance on the 5th of October. Any member not paying the subscription within six calendar months from that date shall, after notification, cease to belong to the Association."

Members are also reminded that they are invited to contribute an additional *voluntary* subscription of 2s. per annum towards the expenses of MONTHLY NOTES. The expense imposed upon the Association by their publication is a matter of some anxiety to the officers, who will be sorry if it should become necessary to reduce the quantity of printed matter below an average of sixteen pages monthly.

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING.

The Seventh Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, April 6th, at 8 P.M., Mr. W. J. HAGGERSTON in the Chair. The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed it was announced that the following gentlemen engaged in library administration had become Members of the Association: Mr. JAMES LATTER, Librarian to the Earl of Derby, Knowsley; the Rev. L. WHITE, Bayham

Abbey, Lamberhurst, Sussex; Mr. R. HENRY FARRAR, 25, Somerleyton Road, East Brixton, S.W.; Mr. R. SPENCE WATSON, LL.D., Pilgrim Street, Newcastle, and Mr. ADAM CARSE, Granville Road, Newcastle (Members of Public Library Committee, Newcastle).

Mr. ARTHUR JOSEPHS, 23, St. Charles's Square, Notting Hill, having been proposed and seconded at the previous Meeting, was elected a member.

Mr. Geo. H. PHILLIPS, Charlton Lodge, Wake Green Road, Birmingham, was proposed for election at the next Meeting by the SECRETARY, and seconded by Mr. TEDDER.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. Geo. R. HUMPHERY, HON. SEC. and Librarian of Messrs. F. Braby and Co's Library and Club, to read a Paper on

LIBRARIANS AND THE WORKING CLASSES — OR CAN LIBRARIANS ASSIST THE WORKING CLASSES TO USE THEIR SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY PROFITABLY?

IN this busy life, when economy of time is equivalent to the saving of money, when not content with shortening distance by rapid railway travelling, the most learned and scientific men of the world are striving still further to affect this object by the application of electricity to sound, light, and the means of communication, when a common pencil is not too small an object, or the lighting of our cities too large a subject for investigation. It therefore becomes of the utmost importance that we should not only use our time well, but profitably, not only our own time, but that of others. The busy man has less trouble to find employment than to decide what occupation will be most profitable. I can have no hesitation in classing our Librarians among the busy men of our country, and it will require no stretch of language to include the other class named in my proposition in this denomination also. The first part of this statement, I feel sure, I can take as being admitted, viz.—The advantage of economy in time, and the fact of the two classes being busy men. But from this point the difficulties of my case commence. On Saturday afternoons our Librarians are engaged—the working classes, as a rule, are not. I have therefore to show, or as lawyers would say, "make out a case," that both classes are interested in the useful expenditure of this time, *i.e.* the Saturday afternoon.

I do not think it will be necessary to prove to this Association that we do not live to, or for, ourselves, but for each other. He best fulfils his mission who confers the greatest happiness on his fellow creatures. The Librarian is no exception to this rule; and, when he is master of the situation, he cannot better devote his time than to meeting a party of working men. In the first place showing the library under his charge, then explaining the various classes of literature, exhibiting specimens of some of the numerous styles of book making; introducing them to a study of Bibliography, giving a few well selected facts connected with the history of some par-

ticular books. This plan will direct the attention of the party to a line of thought, and then, in the convenient language of the distych

> "Those shall read who never read before,
> And those that always read, shall read the more."

I ask will not an afternoon be well spent, if a careless reader is converted into a student? or a superficial wader through novels, whose boast it is that he has *read* ("Heaven save the mark.") so many books, is transformed from a flippant retailer of second hand gunpowder to a teacher of elementary history in an evening class? Or if you shape the devourer of volumes of travel, that he may discern some difference between Don Quixote and Vasco de Gama; Gulliver and Columbus, or Robinson Crusoe and Dr. Livingstone? and, lastly, that you have made one or two men give a better reason than "Because it is." I must now beg to impress upon you a further advantage of which you will know but little. I allude to the after-discussion of these visits in the workshop. Men and women will talk, and when the conversation is not led by a good subject it is apt to degenerate into loose, immoral, or to say the least, meaningless gossip. Now, if we can succeed in initiating, stimulating or continuing healthy and instructive discussion, we have certainly contributed to the advancement of our people. "Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?"

But it will be objected that this is all theory. For the sake of argument, I will admit this, and proceed to show that it has "foundation in fact." When our library (Messrs. Frederick Braby & Co. Limited: see MONTHLY NOTES of this Association for July, 1881) was commenced, we found two causes contribute to the non-use of the books—first, inability to read; secondly, want of interest. The former was remedied, as far as the reticence of the men would allow, by evening classes for elementary education, the latter we attempted, and as I shall show successfully, to overcome, by taking advantage of our Saturday half holiday. The first application was made to Lord de Ros, the then (1870) Governor of the Tower of London, who so approved the object that he obtained permission for a party to be conducted over that ancient structure. A most intelligent warder was told off to conduct us. This excellent system has, in compliance with ignorant clamour, been altered. However, we had the advantage. I saw at once the usefulness of afternoons thus spent. Books were asked for, more than our then limited number could supply. Historical questions came upon us thick and fast. Classes for the study of history were in request; and the general good result exceeded all our expectations. The next gentleman laid under contribution was that friend of all classes, the late Dean Stanley. As I have published details of the connection of this great man with this movement, I will not trouble you with particulars, asking only your attention to two other selected visits in further illustration of my subject. One conducted by W. Overall, Esq., Librarian to the Corporation of London, and the other by Mr.

Douthwaite, Librarian to the Honourable Society of Grays Inn.* Both visits were conducted on the principle I have indicated. Both are gratefully retained in the memories of the men who formed the parties. Both gentlemen will be asked again to conduct some of our members, which is the best evidence of their success. Men have declared to me "that these two gentlemen gave them more information in two hours than they learned from books in two years." "That they never understood the city they lived in until they attended these parties." If this is doubted, ask the first twenty working-men you meet in any city, what they know about the place? apart from their own lives, and you will be astonished at their ignorance. This is also true of other classes.

I have organised these Saturday afternoon visits for the past thirteen years, varing in numbers from 12 (where so limited) to 150, conducted by, or with the permission of some of the most prominent of our countrymen. Such as, in addition to those already mentioned, the Dukes of Westminster and Wellington, the late Archbishop of Canterbury, Professor Flower, the late Mr. J. Winter Jones, and Mr. Geo. Bullen of this Association. A long list could be given, and we have never had one single case of misconduct.

Following up my first statement, I repeat, few will doubt that time profitably spent is equal, in most cases, to money saved. It is therefore of the utmost importance, not only to the working classes, but to the country generally, that the workpeople should spend their time well. Our country is a vast joint stock company, in which we are all shareholders. It makes all the difference if that shareholding is increased or decreased. Be that shareholding money or time, the profit will be in accordance with the labour bestowed. Again, it is our duty, not only to act well ourselves, but to see that others do so also. It must never be overlooked that the drunken spendthrift and idle defaulter's (that is the correct name) share has to be made up by the sober, industrious and thrifty. The day has long since gone by when we argued that we were not "our brother's keeper."

I suppose it will be admitted that we need to cultivate *thinking* in an orderly manner, as well as acting in proper order. In fact, the exercise of the memory in a correct way is the first step to doing our work efficiently and successfully. If all this is true, and I do not expect it will be controverted, then if we as librarians can give the working classes the benefit of any knowledge we may have been able from our positions to have collected, we shall then render essential service to a class to whom it is of vast importance to economise their time, both in thinking and working. A few useful hints nicely wrapped up will have more effect upon a partially trained mind than a lecture. Mr. Overall said, quite incidentally, in wishing our party good afternoon, "That knowledge was of great use when we got old, our company being then sought after and courted rather

* Since the above was written, Mr. John Nicholson, Librarian to the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn has conducted a party most successfully through the hall and library of that body.

than shunned." This was carefully noted by some of the loosest thinkers and most careless of our party, and afterwards repeated in the factory.

Lastly, let me ask, in order that this shall not be merely as one Paper read, but that some practical good shall come out of it, that members of this Association will individually send an invitation to some neighbouring factory or working men's society to come on a particular Saturday afternoon at a certain hour, say three or four o'clock. Not too early, just allowing time for the men to be paid, get home, clean up, and reach your library. Not too late, so as to allow the terribly seductive influence of the ever open drink shop to lead them away. Be quite ready at the appointed time, having all examples placed on a table. Give them a cheerful welcome. Have a few curious but interesting anecdotes to relate. Give a few local historical facts. Where possible a chain of events that will assist the memory. Show books which have some special interest attached to them. You will be astonished with the result. If you can succeed in introducing to the minds of a few toilers the various epochs in the world's history or its literature, or induce a love of books or bibliography, or change the reader for amusement into a student of science or art, you will not have laboured in vain. But if, on the other hand, you should bring to light some Arkwright or Faraday, or add one more Te Deum, thrashed from the anvil of another Jackson, or fan the latent fire of a cotton spinner, that he may be sent to discover some at present unknown region: nay, add some names to those men from the ranks, upwards of one hundred of whom adorn the letter A of a one volume biographical dictionary, to say nothing of those whose origin is unknown: I repeat, to do any of these services to our country will amply repay you. Apart from all this, which may be speculative, you will be rewarded in this life by seeing some small trophy won from the severe battle-field of everyday life.

After a discussion, in the course of which Mr. Haggerston gave an account of the measures adopted at Newcastle to increase popular interest in the library, a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper and the meeting adjourned.

LIBRARY NOTES.

ABERDEEN.—On the 20th of March Mr. John Duguid Milne of Melgum, read a paper before the Philosophical Society of Aberdeen on the subject of the "Success of Free Public Libraries in Industrial Towns, and the necessity for a free public library in Aberdeen," Sheriff Dove Wilson presiding. Letters of apology were read from Dr. Bain, Lord Rector of the University, and some of the professors. A long discussion followed, and it was agreed that Mr. Milne's paper should be printed for distribution amongst the community.

CAMBRIDGE.—The Town Council have agreed to enlarge the Free Library by the erection of a new reading room. The new room will be 50 ft. by 44, with a separate entrance from the main street. Mr.

McDonell of London has been instructed to prepare the design for the new building.

CORSTORPHINE.—This library in Corstorphine village, near Edinburgh, was founded in 1856 by Dr. Fowler, who presented 100 volumes. The library now consists of 4,000 volumes, and the members subscribing to the library number nearly 100. The committee have always been willing to consider favourably applications from those who are unable to subscribe, and to admit readers free of charge. At the same time, the committee have recently issued a circular stating that they find they cannot continue this free list except to a very limited extent, unless they are supported by subscriptions from the public, thus furnishing another proof of the necessity of a library being either supported from the rates or from public generosity, if poor people, who are unable to pay subscriptions, are to be benefited by it.

DARLINGTON.—At the meeting of the Town Council on March 5, a letter was read from Sir J. W. Pease, M.P., on behalf of himself and Mr. Arthur Pease, as executors of their late brother, Mr. Edwd. Pease, stating that in his will he directed that his trustees should, "out of such parts of his personal estate as could be legally devoted to charitable purposes, apply the sum of £10,000 for the education of the poorer classes in the borough of Darlington, either by establishing or founding, or assisting in establishing or founding, a free library, or by scholarships for elementary schools for boys and girls, or in such other way as his trustees should, in their uncontrolled discretion, think fit." Although a large amount of discretion was vested in his trustees, they feel that they should be best carrying out his views by stating that, subject to the adoption by the town of the Free Libraries' Act, they were prepared to erect a building for the library, which, in addition to the value of the site, they were advised could be thoroughly well completed for £5,000; and that they were also prepared to spend a further sum on suitable furniture. The matter will be duly considered by the Town Council.

HANLEY.—Mr. Howard S. Pearson delivered a lecture at the Town Hall, Hanley, on February 15th on "Books and the Worth of Them." The lecture has been printed (with permission) by the Hanley Free Library Committee.

LONDON: HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Since the Easter recess the library and dining room have been illuminated by the electric light. The lighting of the room used for the grand committee on Law and Courts of Justice, which is effected by two gaslights of Sugg's latest patent, is said indeed (by the *Daily News*) to put the electric light quite in the shade.

NEWARK.—The Free Library which has peen presented to Newark by Mr. William Gilstrap, of Fornham Park, Bury St. Edmunds, is approaching completion, and an account of the building appeared in the *Nottingham Daily Express* of March 24. The memorial stone was laid, it will be remembered, on Bank Holiday last year, but it is not announced when the opening ceremony will take place.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—The Bodleian Librarian has issued the following notice:—"All persons having the right of reading in the Library (or the Camera only), and being engaged in the study of any special subject, are invited to communicate with the Librarian who will endeavour to inform them without delay whenever any work bearing on the subject of their study is added to the Library."

TIPTON.—On March 24 a public meeting of the ratepayers was held to consider the desirability of adopting the Free Libraries Acts, the Chairman of the Local Board of Health presiding. The resolution in favour of adopting them was carried without a single dissentient.

WEST BROMWICH.—The Committee of the Free Library have recently taken steps for reading and news rooms in the outlying district. The houses and the population of West Bromwich are scattered, the borough being formed of four or five villages which ultimately will be joined as one large town. A reassessment of the town has taken place which has resulted in an increase in the Library rate of £150 per annum. This increase of income has been divided into three parts, and three reading and news rooms have been opened in the districts locally known as Spon Lane, Great Bridge and Hill Top. The rooms are necessarily small, £50 in each case being the only sum allowed for expenses. In two cases two large shop fronts are appropriated for the purpose, and in the third some unused offices admirably supply the purpose. The rooms are much frequented by readers who scarcely ever visited the Central Reading Room, the distance being too great to travel in an evening. About 300 books have been distributed to the rooms, and no doubt some time hence when the rate of the committee is again augmented Lending Libraries will be added to the rooms for the convenience of distant borrowers.

Mr. Credland has written in reference to our note on his statistics that he had found the number he quoted in his paper in a newspaper, and too hastily assumed its correctness. Talking of statistics, we notice that the current number of the *Bibliographer* reprints a list of Paris libraries, with the number of volumes they are supposed to contain. Among other curious features in this list, we notice the "Bibliothèque du Louvre," which was, as we thought everybody knew, burnt in 1871. But the most curious thing about it is the innocent and astonishing statement that "the Bibliothèque Nationale contains more than half a million volumes!" In that case it would rank, not only far below the British Museum, but also below the libraries of Berlin, Munich, Strasburg, and St. Petersburg. The number, we may observe, is stated in the Encyclopædia Britannica at 2,290,000 volumes, exclusive of MSS.

On the 7th of March an interesting ceremony took place at Edur—the laying of the foundation stone of a library and clock-tower, which have been presented to his subjects by the Maharajah Shree Kesh-

risinggi, to commemorate his accession. The building is to be named the Wodehouse Library and Clock-tower, and the stone was laid by Colonel Wodehouse.

It has been announced that the Trustees of the British Museum have recommended to the Treasury the purchase of the Ashburnham MSS.

Our readers will have observed with gratification that at the graduation ceremonial of the University of Edinburgh, held on March 20, the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon our distinguished member, Mr. Richard Garnett. We may fairly assume that this well deserved compliment was intended as an acknowledgment, not only of Mr. Garnett's critical skill and literary achievements, but quite as much of the wide and varied knowledge, and the kindliness and courtesy which have enabled Mr. Garnett to render such eminent service to a very wide circle of students and scholars in the great reading-room of the British Museum.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Dresden. Verzeichniss der Neuen Werke der Königl. Œffentlichen Bibliothek zu Dresden. 1882. Herausgegeben von Paul Emil Richter. Dresden, 8vo, pp. 55, double coll.

The list of accessions published annually by the Secretary to the Dresden Royal Library consists of an alphabetical part, followed by an elaborate classification into twenty-six classes. It is prepared with Herr Richter's well known care and accuracy.

Doncaster Borough Free Library. Supplement to the Index Catalogue. Compiled by John Ballinger, Librarian. Price Threepence. 8vo. pp. 80.

Contains the accessions for the past three years, catalogued upon the dictionary system. The contents of collectaneous work are fully set out. Part II contains a catalogue of the reference department.

Bristol Museum and Library. Report of Proceedings at the Twelfth Annual Meeting, held 15th February. 1883. . . . 8vo, pp. 28, and wrapper.

The income for the year was £1,381 4s. 6d. and the expenditure £1,271 17s. 7d. The number of persons entitled to make use of this library was 841, being the highest total yet attained. The expenditure upon books was £123 11s. 1d. A list of subscribers is appended.

Halifax Public Library. First Annual Report, 1883. 8vo, pp. 6.

The acts having been adopted March 23, 1881, the news-room was opened March 20, 1882, and has been very largely used, and the library has been recently opened. The number of volumes in the library is 19,598, of which 1,304 are in the reference department. The rate produces £1,050. The committee have leased the assembly rooms for five years.

City of Norwich. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council. 1882. 8vo, pp. 12.

The lending department was open 196 days, and the issues were 30,892, as against 32,836 for 1881. The number of volumes in this department is 6,912. The reference department numbers 1,140 volumes. The number of persons using the reading room is estimated at nearly 131,000. The rate produced £950.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—May Monthly Meeting: Papers by Mr. Henry Wilson, "An Old English Text: the Speculum Vitæ Christi;" Mr. A. Allchin, "The Communal Library of Abbeville on the Somme—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Correspondence.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held at the London Institution on Friday, June 1st, 1883, at 8 P.M., when a Paper will be read by Dr. RICHARD GARNETT on "Librarianship in the Seventeenth Century."

The date of the Annual Meeting at Liverpool has been fixed for Tuesday, the 11th September and following days.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

The Eighth Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, May 4th, 1883, at 8 P.M., Mr. Chancellor CHRISTIE, V.P., in the Chair. The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. GEO. H. PHILLIPS, of Birmingham, having been duly proposed and seconded at the previous meeting, was elected a member of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary, in the absence of the writer, to read a Paper by Mr. HENRY WILSON on

AN OLD ENGLISH TEXT.

AMONG the mystical books of "spiritual reading" so widely diffused during the Middle Ages, few were in more general favour than the *Vita Christi*, which was then, and is still, currently ascribed to Saint Bonaventure. The work indeed betrays an intimate acquaintance with several of that cardinal's writings, but at the same time affords internal evidence against his authorship, and moreover contains a passage which would plausibly connect it with a certain Joannes de Caulibus a Sancto Geminiano, of Tuscany, a Franciscan (flor. circ.

1376). It has also been ascribed to another Cardinal Bonaventure, who flourished about a century later than Fidanza. With the vexed question of the authorship of the Latin original, however, I do not propose to occupy your attention. Suffice it here to say that the learned Franciscans who are engaged upon a new critical edition of the works of St. Bonaventure intend to reject it as spurious. As often occurs in the case of mediæval MSS. the Vita is found to present considerable differences in the number of chapters and other particulars in different codices of the work. Of these there must be at least two hundred in the public libraries of Europe, while perhaps an equal number might be found in private ownership. This circumstance goes some way to show the favour in which this book formerly stood, and which is further evidenced by the numerous versions which were made in the vernacular of all the European countries of the Latin communion, and the many editions which issued from the early press. That the popularity of the work was not less in this country is attested by the number of manuscripts of the English version, which exist in public and private libraries, as well as the fact that this version was printed by Caxton in 1488? by Pynson in 1495? by W. de Worde in 1517 and 1525 (and, according to the Chatsworth catalogue, in 1530).

The English MSS. which I have examined, including one in my own possession, are all of the fifteenth century, and the differences between them are chiefly dialectic. My own corresponds closely with the text printed by Caxton. Indeed I have found no other pre-reformation English text of this work.

At intervals in more recent times several independent translations have appeared which have now, however, become extremely rare, and seem to have uniformly escaped the notice of our bibliographers. What is more remarkable, is that not in any notices of our incunabula do I find the name of the English translator mentioned. It is however given by Tanner, Bibl. Brit. Hibern., although in another part of his work he assigns the English text to John Morton—a mistake in which he has been followed by some bibliographers, and which is doubtless due to the inscription, "Explicit speculum vite xpi per John Morton," which appears in the Bodleian MS. 131 (1999), of which however Morton was merely the scribe.

There is, however, no doubt that Nicholas Love, prior of the Carthusian House of Mountgrace de Ingleby, wrote the English version, of which as most of the MSS. state, circa annū 1410... originalis copia presentabatur london' per compilatorem eiusdem... dño nro Thome Arundell Cantuar' archiepiscopo ad inspiciend' et debite examinand' antequam fuerit libere communicata. Qui post inspeccionem eiusdem per dies aliquot extradens ipsum librum memorato auctori eiusdem libri propriæ vocis oraculo ipsum in singulis commendavit et approbavit necnon in auctoritate sua metropolitana utpote catholicū publice communicanda fore decrevit et mandavit ad fidelium edificationem et hereticorum confutationem. Amen.

Several manuscripts concur in expressly naming Love as the author of the English translations, or rather Bearbeitung, for the work is considerably altered, passages from St. Bernard, &c. being introduced, and the whole being divided into portions corresponding to the days of the week, commencing with Monday.

Prior Love is not mentioned by Dugdale, nor in Burton's *Monasticon Eboracense.* It is possible, however, that he may be proved to be the same with a Love who is recorded about the date of the approbation of the work, or rather earlier, to have seceded from the Benedictine order. There are one or two circumstances which may perhaps turn out to be links in such identification. In the library of Ripon Minster is preserved a small Latin codex, which through the kindness of Dr. Freemantle I have been enabled to examine. It is the Latin Vita Christi, usually passing under the name of St. Bonaventure. At the end of the volume is written: "Scripta in freston circa festum annunciacionis beate Marie Virginis Anno Domini 14 . Deo gracias." At the foot of the first page is written in large writing, "Liber montis gracie." This may possibly have been the original which Love used for his work. Freston or Frieston was a Benedictine succursal of Croyland Abbey, and the MS. written there in 1400, now in the Ripon Library, which is a small pocket volume, may have been taken away by Love when he joined the Carthusians, and left by him to the Mount Grace Library. However this may be, I have reinstated Love, so long overlooked by the bibliographers, as the compiler of the Myrour of the Life of Christ, in the forthcoming catalogue of English Literature in the British Museum, which is now in the press.

In conclusion, I should feel grateful if any who feel an interest in this old English text, and whose attention I may have been so fortunate as to secure by the foregoing remarks, would bring to my notice any MSS. or editions of this work, not mentioned by Lowndes, with which they may happen to be acquainted.

After a short discussion a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. WILSON.

The Chairman then called upon MR. ARTHUR ALLCHIN to read his Paper on

THE COMMUNAL LIBRARY OF ABBEVILLE ON THE SOMME.

THE principle of State aid to local effort, the recognition of which we first obtained in the Public Libraries' Act, has been as you are aware long admitted in France; and it is therefore by no means uncommon to find in that country valuable and accessible libraries in towns of small population and importance. The nucleus of these communal libraries was in many cases obtained from the suppressed monasteries, and as this suppression did not take place until the end of the last century, more than 250 years later than it had done in England,

those store houses of learning had garnered up a far richer harvest than our own, and at their wrecking a greater amount of literary treasure was saved from dispersion or destruction. In addition to this a Frenchman has, of all men, the interest in home strong upon him, and since he has seldom the busy instincts of this busy land, there are to be found in his country many men of learned leisure who, turning their attention solely to their own neighbourhood, collect its legends, its facts, the biographies of its citizens, the histories of its monuments, and thus enrich the local libraries with a mass of antiquarian research, of topographical lore which, except in some few favoured counties, is in England so sadly wanting. These treasures have been, as I have said, largely supplemented by state contributions, and though in some cases it might be wished that the municipal authorities had laid a somewhat greater stress on technical knowledge in their selection of librarians, yet the communal libraries of France are institutions where the student receives a ready welcome, a generous assistance and a freedom from harassing regulations when he wishes to borrow, which a student can of all men best appreciate.

I now propose, with your permission, to give a few particulars of the Communal Library of Abbeville, the capital of the ancient county of Ponthieu, in the province of Picardy. The fact that Ponthieu was for 100 years an appanage of the English crown, and that many stirring and some glorious events connected with our history have taken place within its bounds would serve to give it at least an interest of sentiment to us as Englishmen. But it has an interest more universal. From out the valley of the Somme have been extracted many of the most interesting remains of prehistoric man, while within the historic period the Celt, the Roman, the Frank, the Norman, the Englishman and the Fleming have in turn occupied, ruled over, or swept across its soil; and each has left there the impress of his genius and the traces, material or moral, of his temporary sway. "The history of Picardy," wrote Michelet, "is the history of France in miniature," and it happens that Abbeville, now a quiet though prosperous country town, was in the middle ages the theatre of many of those events which serve to make history. Within its walls Guy of Ponthieu and Godfrey de Bouillon assembled the volunteers for the first Crusade, and later on, being included in the dowry of Elizabeth of Castile it became intimately connected with the fortunes of our Plantagenet kings. The citizens however seem to have been little content with their lords, and having revolted in 1340, managed to repulse the English flushed with the victory of Creçy, and to remain masters of their own until 1360, when they were handed back by the treaty of Bretigny. Another revolt occurred during the reign of Edward III only to be suppressed; but on the third occasion, when assisted by the army of Charles V, the Abbevillois finally drove us from their gates. But nevertheless the town still figures in the pages of our history since 1514, for it was here that the beautiful Mary of England was wedded to the dying Louis XII,

and here thirteen years later Francis I and Wolsey met to sign the treaty which leagued their two countries against Charles of Germany. But when I spoke of events that make history I did not allude merely to those "glories of our mortal state which are connected with kings, with wars, and with princely alliances. The people of Abbeville were among the first in France to struggle for municipal privileges, and in 1184 they wrested from the then Count of Ponthieu a charter, still to be seen among the archives of the town, which secured to the burgesses their liberties as against the neighbouring seigneurs and against the over-lord himself. So real was the freedom thus obtained, and so stubbonly was it defended, that many of the weaker lords of Picardy availed themselves of the protection of this charter by becoming burgesses of Abbeville, without, by such act, being held to derogate from their nobility. I may add that within the 12th and the early part of the 13th century no less than 33 towns and villages, inspired by this example, obtained from their several seigneurs charters, generally on the model of that of Abbeville.

Coming to what more immediately concerns us, the printing press, we find that several conjectures have been made as to the date of its introduction—one stating that a work of St. Augustine was printed here in 1453; another that *La Somme Rurale* was produced by Paul Perard in 1459; and a third that some German printers were installed in Abbeville in 1476. These theories have however been set at rest by Monsieur Ledieu, the present librarian, who has sent me the following note :—

"There is undoubted proof that it was not until 1486 that a printing press was set up in Abbeville. It was situated in a house, still standing, in the Impasse Barbafust, close to the post office. Jehan Dupré and Pierre Gérard published in this year, 1486, *la Cité de Dieu* of St. Augustine, translated into French by Raoul de Praesles. The first volume of this work was brought out on the 24th November, and the second volume on the 7th April 1487 (new style). These two volumes are very remarkable specimens of typography, and they contain a large number of wood engravings of which the subjects are taken from the Old Testament. The following year Pierre Gerard, who is believed to have been the associate of Jean Dupré, printed alone *La Somme Rurale* of Jean Bouteiller and *Le triomphe des neuf Preux*, the latter work containing woodcuts representing the nine knights. These three are the only books printed at Abbeville during the 15th century, although it has been stated by Monsieur Vitu that Pierre Lerouge de Valence had published at Abbeville a *Histoire de la papesse Jeanne*, with engravings, in 1497. There is good reason to suppose that the Jean Dupré, already mentioned, is the person who published at Paris in 1488 the *Roman des gestes des chevaliers qui furent au temps du roi Ortus.* From 1487 no press existed in Abbeville until 1671, when Jean Musnier then established at Amiens, installed himself here."

Any notice, however slight, of Abbeville would be incomplete without a reference to the beautiful though unfinished Church of St.

Wulfrau, of which it is enough at present to say that it was a favourite study of such artists as Turner, Stanfield and Prout. Nor must I omit to make mention of the museum formed and left to the town by M. Boucher de Perthes, who though not himself, in the strict sense of the term, a scientist, may fairly be reckoned the father of that branch of prehistoric archæology which is connected with Palæolithic remains. Besides a fine collection of these objects and of Roman, Gallo-Roman and mediæval remains, the museum (which is free to all) contains some good specimens of pottery, chiefly French and Flemish, many fine oak carvings, cabinets, enamels, and curios from all parts of the world, and a collection of pictures which would however be the better for a little judicious weeding. As a last word on the town of Abbeville let me say that its people have been and still are honourably distinguished by their culture. Its engravers have been among the first in France; the art of wood carving is still practised with success, and in painting, music, poetry and general literature its children are not unknown. Amongst those of our own day whose reputation is more than local, I may cite the names of the poet Millevoye; of Lesueur, the musician; of Boucher de Perthes; of the Louandres, father and son; of M. Ernest Prarond; and of M. Ris-Paquot, an accomplished writer on the fictile arts.

Pardon me if I have kept you waiting too long for the details of the Library; but I think that a library, like a jewel, may occasionally owe something to its setting, and in the case of this one I have believed that it would not be amiss to show that it is housed amidst associations worthy of it, and among a people who can appreciate its treasures.

It was founded in 1685 by M. Charles Sanson, curé of St. Georges, and was enriched with a large number of works on jurisprudence and theology by M. Francois Dargnies in 1716, by M. Dufresnel in 1726, and by MM. Becquin, Deray du Filleul and Formentin in 1774.

The principal sources of its literary wealth are the libraries of the Abbey of St. Riquier, the Abbey of St. Valloires and the Convent of the Minimes, which were appropriated on the suppression of the monastic institutions at the Revolution. The history of the Abbey of St. Riquier is so remarkable, especially in connection with learning and bibliography, that I trust you will allow me to mention a few of the facts relating to it. Founded by the saint of that name in the year 625, it was shortly placed under the Benedictine rules, and soon took rank among the first institutions of the kind in Europe. About the year 800—St. Augilbert, son-in-law of Charlemagne, being then its Abbot—there were added to it under the auspices of our countryman Alcuin and under the patronage of the great Emperor, a school of Theology and the Humanities which for centuries was one of the chief seats of learning in Europe. In proof of this I need only mention the fact that it gave to the Church, at different times, no less than 27 Popes, 200 Cardinals and 500 Bishops. In the year 831 its library contained 450 volumes, including MSS. in Greek and Latin of the Fathers of the Church, of the ancient classics, and

of contemporary annalists. These treasures, subsequently largely augmented, were, with one exception to be hereafter mentioned, burnt during a siege of the town in the year 1131.

Throughout the troubled times of the middle ages the town of St. Riquier, which at one time contained 14,000 inhabitants (its present population is about 1,400), was constantly harried by Norman, English, Burgundian, or French; and the Church and Monastery were wrecked. The present Church was built in the early part of the 16th Century, and in dignity and beauty of detail may take rank with many a Cathedral. In 1790 the National Convention decreed the suppression of religious corporations; the then Abbot, the 66th of his line, was expelled; the church plate and vessels, the accumulated treasures of centuries, were sent to the melting pot; the library transferred to Abbeville, only six miles distant; and the buildings including the Church sold for 40,000 francs (£1,600). These last were subsequently redeemed by the pious zeal of the Abbé Padé, and restored to their present condition. Of the Abbey of Valloires I may remark that it was especially rich in liturgical and other illuminated manuscripts, but unhappily these all disappeared, as indeed did most of those of St. Riquier, during the Revolution.

Unhappily the public library of Abbeville was forgotten amidst the stirring events of that period. The volumes which composed it remained for a long time in the dormitories of the college, exposed to the ravages of book-worms and schoolboys. From this perilous situation they were transferred to the armoury of the Hotel de Ville, where, though safe from schoolboys, the worms, assisted by the damp, continued their work of destruction. At last, in 1822, the administration roused themselves, fitted up the armoury as a library, and as M. Louandre says, "For the first time brought light and order into this profound chaos." The library is now housed in the first story of the Hotel de Ville, and stretches round two sides of the quadrangle, an L shaped room, which may measure about 100 feet in length, with a breadth of some 20 feet, and it is lighted by windows opening on to the quadrangle. The fittings are for the most part of oak, and the shelves still bear bronze plaques, inscribed with the S. R., which show that they belonged to the library of St. Riquier. In one half the room the shelves are only round the walls, the body being occupied by tables; in the other half six bookcases 8 feet high are arranged transversely, with intervals of about 3 feet between. By this means between 16,000 and 17,000 volumes are accomodated. The library is open for lending purposes to all householders from 11 to 1 o'clock on four days in the week, and as a reading-room to the public in general on the afternoons of the same days. As one who has made much use of this library, I may add that strangers, even self introduced, may depend upon a courteous welcome, and on every facility being given them, even out of the ordinary hours, to examine or search for what they want, or even to borrow any books they may wish to study.

Before making reference to any particular works contained in this

library, it would be well to draw attention to its catalogues. On the shelves stand the two MS. lists from the abbeys of St. Riquier and Valloires, which were probably compiled some 150 years back, and are only now useful as showing how many valuable books have been lost. The present catalogue was compiled in 1836 by M. Charles Louandre, and is on the system followed by MM. Brunet and Renouard. The printed books are primarily divided into six classes: theology, jurisprudence, science and art, the fine arts, belles lettres, history; and these again into many subdvisions. They are followed by a catalogue of the MSS., and the whole by an alphabetical list of authors and titles. 6,478 separate works are included in this catalogue, many of which are however in duplicate. The department of theology is, as may be supposed, both the largest and most valuable.

The present librarian, M. Ledieu, is revising the catalogue, and the new edition will contain a history of the printing press in Abbeville, followed by a list of its productions.

Although so many MSS. have been stolen or destroyed there still remain on the shelves of the Abbeville library the respectable number of thirty-one. First and foremost of these is the volume to which I referred when I said there was one exception to the destruction of the books at St. Riquier in the year 1131. This is a folio copy of the Gospels, written in letters of gold on purple vellum, under the direction of Alcuin for Charlemagne, and by him presented to the abbey in the year 793. Its cover of embossed silver, enriched with precious stones, disappeared in the Revolution, and it is now simply bound in oak boards covered with tapestry. As you are aware, there is another similar copy of the Gospels now in the Bibliothèque of Tours, upon which the Kings of France, down to Louis Phillipe, took the coronation oath. This issued from the abbey of St. Martin of Tours, of which Alcuin was the head. Another such copy, of about the same period I believe, is among the treasures recently sold by the Duke of Hamilton to the Prussian Government. This copy, we are told, originally belonged to the chapter of York, from which it was removed by Cardinal Wolsey. It would be interesting, if it were possible, to compare these three books, in order to see if in their general or particular features, or in any speciality, either of the text or ornament, they could be identified as of a common origin.

Besides the books in M. Louandre's catalogue, there is a very fair collection of modern works of fiction, science, and art, some contributed from time to time by the State, or obtained by the annual grant of the Municipal Council, others the gift of private individuals, amongst which may be mentioned a small collection of English books, chiefly of the eighteenth century.

In conclusion, let me draw your attention once more to a class of books to which large additions are constantly being made, I refer to that of local histories. There is not a town, and hardly a considerable village of any antiquity in Picardy which has not such a monograph devoted to it. In general, too, these books are written not only by loving hands but in an intelligent spirit, and even the least among

them deserves our gratitude when it rescues from oblivion some decaying custom or struggling tradition; when it records it may be an inscription or an epitaph which the hand of time is wearing down; or when it describes some natural feature of the land or a building of historical or architectural interest, which the meddling hand of man is preparing to improve off the face of the earth.

After a discussion, in the course of which M. Louandre's catalogue was exhibited, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. ALLCHIN. The meeting then adjourned.

LIBRARY NOTES.

CAMBRIDGE: NEWNHAM COLLEGE.—During the past year a new wing has been added to the South Hall, including a new Library, intended for the use of the students in both halls. The college has already received donations amounting to nearly £500 for books.

DARLINGTON.—At the quarterly meeting of the Town Council a resolution was adopted that voting papers should be issued to ascertain the opinion of the ratepayers as to the adoption of the Libraries Act. A committee was also appointed to confer with Sir Joseph and Mr. Arthur Pease on their offer, as executors of Mr. Edward Pease, to erect a library building.

LONDON: BIRKBECK INSTITUTION.—The foundation stone of the new buildings was laid on Monday, April 23rd, by H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, who was supported by the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and many distinguished persons. The structure will be divided into two portions; the front and main half facing Bream's-buildings will be 80 feet high from pavement to ridge; here, in the centre of the front, will be the main entrance, with staircases 18 feet wide. Ascending the double staircase, on the first floor will be the reading room, magazine room, lending library, and coffee room; on the second, third and fourth floors will be the class-rooms. In the back half of the premises will be situated the large lecture hall of the Institution, 66 feet by 50 feet, with circular galleries, capable of comfortably seating 1,200 persons. The total cost of the new buildings will be £19,000, towards which £10,600 has already been collected.

LONDON: BRABY & CO.'S LIBRARY AND CLUB.—The thirteenth annual meeting of this Library and Club was held on Saturday, May 4th, at the Victoria Works, Deptford. After tea and the launching of a new barge, Mr. F. Braby took the chair, and the annual report (of which a summary will be found at p. 83) was read by the Hon. Sec., Mr. G. R. Humphery. A very enjoyable meeting concluded with distribution of prizes. Among those present were Mr. J. Nicholson, Librarian of Lincoln's Inn, and Mr. E. C. Thomas, and letters of apology had been received from Mr. W. H. Overall and Mr. W. R. Douthwaite.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The principal Librarian has issued a notice that portions in type of the General Catalogue of Printed

Books containing particular headings can be purchased separately. The portions now ready are: Byron (price 1s.); Swedenborg (1s.); Virgil (2s.); Xenophon (1s.) The sale of these portions has already been larger than was expected. The map catalogue has now been printed as far as to the end of letter C. The two volumes thus in type represent about seventy-five of the old manuscript volumes. A selection of bindings has been arranged in four showcases in the King's Library. The selection has been made by Mr. Fletcher.

NEWARK: GILSTRAP FREE LIBRARY.—Mr. G. G. Killingley, of Nottingham Free Public Libraries, has been appointed to the librarianship of the Gilstrap Free Library.

NEWCASTLE: THOMLINSON LIBRARY.—Mr. Haggerston informs us in fulfilment of his promise in MONTHLY NOTES for June 1882 (p. 91), that the result of the negotiations there spoken of has been that the trustees of this library have determined to make the library the nucleus of a cathedral library. The works will be rebound, a proper building provided, and a new catalogue made, while the collection will be accessible to the public under conditions in harmony with the objects of the trust.

NOTTINGHAM: FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—A new Reading Room, intended specially for the use of the Meadows district, was opened on Thursday, May 10th, in Mayfield Grove, by Mr. Alderman Goldschmidt, Chairman of the University and Free Public Libraries Committee. The room will accommodate about sixty readers, and is provided with newspapers and periodicals, together with about 500 volumes of books from the Children's Library in Shakspeare Street.

PLYMOUTH: FREE LIBRARY.—The Committee at their last meeting received several important donations, including a set of prints of "Armada" pictures from the Mayor. Mr. W. P. Courtney presented about 100 books and pamphlets, chiefly relating to Cornwall. A valuable donation has also been received from the Trustees of the British Museum, consisting of about 250 volumes of their illustrated catalogues and other publications, valued in all at about £170. The Committee, in thanking the Museum authorities, also expressed their indebtedness to Mr. Wright for his services in securing this donation.

TAUNTON.—At the April meeting of the Town Council it was announced that the opinion of the rate-payers had been taken with regard to the adoption of the Free Libraries Acts. The result was that there were 484 votes for the adoption of the Acts and 2,039 against. The number of blank and spoilt papers was 420.

Mr. Chancellor Christie's paper on "The Marquis de Morante: his Library and its Catalogue" has now been printed in the April number of the Manchester Quarterly, and we strongly recommend our readers to procure the number for the sake of this charming paper.

The death of Jules Sandeau, the well-known French writer, and member of the Academy, which took place on April 24th at the age of 72, should be recorded here, as he was for some time Librarian to the Palace of St. Cloud and also to the Institute.

Mr. Cotgreave has devised a new rack for periodicals, which has been introduced at the Richmond Free Library. It consists of a wooden frame, fitted on both sides with diagonal shelves, with a clear space inside between the inner edges of the shelves. The outer edges are fitted with clips at certain intervals for the purpose of fastening the various papers in their places, and it is so contrived that any paper, whatever its size, can be placed in any part of the rack in its alphabetical sequence. One notable feature is that should any reader, through haste or carelessness, omit to fasten a paper up, it immediately falls through the centre of the rack and drops at his feet, thus acting as a mute but sufficient reminder that he has not replaced his paper in a proper manner.

LIBRARY REPORTS.

Glasgow. Report of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, 1882. Glasgow, 1883. 8vo, pp. 46.

During the year 4,929 books and pamphlets were added to the library, 2,207 being by gift. The total number of volumes in the library is now 45,025. The "Poets" Corner and the Glasgow collection have received considerable accessions, and now number 3,247, and upwards of 2,450 volumes respectively. The issues (not including current periodicals) were 366,225, showing a decrease of 37,488 upon the previous year, accounted for by the increasing activity in trade. The financial statement shows an income of £2,683 2s. 2d. The committee again urge the need for suitable and permanent premises.

London. Library and Club (Messrs. Fredk. Braby & Co. Limited.) Thirteenth Annual Report, 1882-3. London, 1883. 8vo, pp. 23.

1,477 vols. were lent during the year and 157 vols. added to the library (120 by gift), making 1,563 vols. now in stock. The committee call attention to the need of a Free Library for Deptford. The report contains information as to the working of all the numerous departments of the Institution, trustees of which have now been appointed, thus it is hoped securing its stability (see p. 81.)

City of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Second Annual Report of the Public Libraries Committee. 1881-82. Newcastle. 8vo, pp. 32.

The issues for the year were 90,513 less than last year, which is partly explained by the closing of the library during the removal to the new building, and partly by the pressure of space in the old lending library, which discouraged borrowers. The issues in the lending department for the year were 513,337, and in the juvenile department 26,375. The issues of fiction having been from under 44 per cent. to 56·61 per cent. this year. The number of volumes in the lending department is 25,280, and in the juvenile 1,532. The stock already acquired for the reference library amounts to 6,821 volumes, exclusive of 3,182 volumes of patents. The number of visits to the news rooms during the last sixteen days of the library year averaged 1,804 daily. The usual statistical tables, &c. are appended. The Education Committee report that the classes were attended by 431 students, and that the interest and success of this department has been maintained.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CLASSED CATALOGUES.

Agreeing as I do in the main with Mr. Thomas's remarks on the utility of classed catalogues in "professional libraries," I am induced to mention my own experience in that way. Being in charge of an extensive medical library, furnished with a printed author catalogue, I have as usual found that the question most frequently put is, not "What works of a given author has the library," but "What works on a given subject." To meet an obvious want, therefore, I determined some time ago, with the assistance of some of the professors in the matter of classifying, to prepare a catalogue of the contents of the library, according to subjects. Being precluded from printing by the element of expense and other considerations, I have fallen back on the card or slip system, adopting for the purpose what is known as "loan" paper, cut to a size of five and a half inches by three. This paper is not only pleasant to write on, but conveniently thin and remarkably tough. The slips are held together in given quantities, say a whole class or large sub-class, by the following device. From the middle of the lower of two brass plates, each 3½ inches long by 1 inch broad, and about ¼ of an inch thick, rises a screwed pin, that passes through a hole in the centre of the upper plate. Between these two plates the slips are inserted, and held firmly in position by a thumb-screw, working on the pin above the upper plate. To give the plates a better hold of the slips, a notch is cut in the back of the latter opposite the pin to a depth of half the breadth of the brass plate, allowing of the slips being made flush with the back edge of the plates. The advantage of the above arrangement is that while it keeps the slips in a form as firm, compact and easily used as a book, it admits of every fresh accession to the library being at once inserted in its proper classified place.

I should add that at the beginning of every divison and sub-division in a collection of slips I have inserted a vellum slip of the same length as the paper slips, but about half an inch broader, so as to project to that extent beyond the level of the paper slips. On this projection the title of the class or sub-class is written, so that on taking up a collection it is possible at a glance to tell what and where are the particular groups into which it has been subdivided. I may also say that, so far as executed, my plan succeeded admirably, and has given general satisfaction.

A. W. ROBERTSON.

The Aberdeen University Library.

*** Several communications and notices of Library Reports and Books unavoidably stand over, in consequence of pressure on the Editor's space and time.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—June Monthly Meeting—Public Libraries and The "Promulgation List"—Library Statistics Again—Library Notes—Library Catalogues and Reports—Library Publications—Correspondence—&c., &c.

THE MONTHLY MEETINGS have been suspended for the months of July, August and September, by a Resolution of the Council, in accordance with Art. 20 of the Constitution.

The arrangements for the Liverpool Meeting (which, as already announced, will be held on Tuesday, the 11th of September and three following days) are now being made, and the Council will be happy to receive offers of Papers at the earliest possible date.

The following circular has been issued by the Local Committee at Liverpool:—

It is proposed to hold, during the Meeting of the Library Association in Liverpool, on the 11th-14th of next September, an EXHIBITION OF OBJECTS AND APPLIANCES ILLUSTRATING THE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS, &c., OF LIBRARIES IN ALL THEIR DEPARTMENTS, and the Local Committee would be glad of your kind co-operation with a view of making it as complete and useful as possible. The Exhibition will include plans and designs of library buildings, models or specimens of various kinds of shelving, book-cases, book-stands, trays and racks, trucks or carriages for the conveyance of books in libraries, indicators, ladders, book-supports, reading cases, methods of preserving loose pamphlets and magazines, newspaper files and holders, book tags and labels, book-stamps or illustrations of them, catalogues, specimens of catalogue cards and slips, *illustrations of the means of indicating to the public new accessions to a library*, systems of booking for lending libraries, stationery, copying machines, &c.

As the above list is but an imperfect enumeration of objects and appliances useful in library administration, it is hoped that others will be sent likely to prove of interest and value.

It is proposed to make bookbinding adapted for public libraries a speciality; but specimens of ornamental binding, samples of materials, and all that may illustrate the *ars technica* will be equally acceptable.

Plain library bindings will include—first, such as are best fitted for books

like the Proceedings and Transactions of various learned societies, scientific magazines, &c., whose bindings suffer most from the action of gas and a dry atmosphere rather than from usage by readers; secondly, bindings adapted for lending-library books where the wear and tear is hard and constant; thirdly, bindings for books of reference with plates.

Since the first Librarians' Conference, held in London in 1877, no exhibition of a satisfactory kind has taken place, and even then it was by no means as complete as could have been desired. It is recommended therefore that exhibits should not be confined to novelties since that date, but that the same objects should be again exhibited, if not superseded by more recent improvements. This will be particularly agreeable to new members of the association and those unable to attend the first conference.

Exhibits, carriage paid, will be required not later than September 4th, and particulars of such, and the probable amount of space you will require, will be deemed a favour. All objects exhibited will be carefully repacked and returned without delay at the close of the meeting. Glass cases will be provided for objects requiring special care.

W. J. STEWART, P. COWELL, *Hon. Secs.*

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
LIVERPOOL, *June*, 1883.

Our members will be interested in the announcement that the surplus stock of the Transactions of our Association has been sold by auction at Messrs. Hodgson's. The matter will form a subject of comment in the Annual Report of the Council, but it must not be supposed, as is suggested in a letter from a correspondent printed in the present number, that the Council were in any way responsible for this sale, or that they failed to take such steps as seemed fitting in the interests of the Association.

The following new members who are engaged in library administration have joined the Association since the last Monthly Meeting:—Rev. L. White, Bayham Abbey, Lamberhurst, Sussex; Mr. R. H. Farrar, 8, John St., Adelphi, W.C.; Dr. R. S. Watson, Pilgrim St., Newcastle; Mr. Adam Carse, Granville Road, Newcastle; and Mr. Geo. F. Hooper, Librarian, Admiralty Library, S.W.

The Treasurer begs to remind those members of the Association whose Subscriptions for the current year are still unpaid, that it will be a great convenience if they are remitted to him at once.

Members are also reminded that they are invited to contribute the very modest sum of 2s. per annum towards the expense of carrying on MONTHLY NOTES.

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

The Ninth Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, June 1st, 1883, at 8 P.M., the TREASURER, Mr. ROBERT HARRISON, in the Chair.

The following gentlemen, being engaged in library administration,

were announced as having joined the Association:—Mr. A. W. W. Dale, Fellow and Librarian of Trinity Hall, Cambridge (reported by the Rev. S. S. Lewis); Mr. W. Hall, Librarian, Free Library, Rotherham (reported by Mr. John Ballinger, of Doncaster); Mr. John Williams Heppel, Assistant Librarian, Public Library, Worcester (reported by Mr. Samuel Smith, of Worcester).

A letter from Dr. R. GARNETT expressing regret at his inability to prepare his Paper promised for the Meeting having been read, and there being no other business, the Meeting adjourned.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE "PROMULGATION LIST."

THE question of the distribution to libraries of public documents printed at the national expense is one to which, as most of our readers are aware, the special attention of the Council and of the Association has now been for some time directed. The important Paper contributed to our Cambridge Meeting by Mr. James Yates, the Public Librarian of Leeds, who has made this question peculiarly his own, will soon be in the hands of members. We have shown in MONTHLY NOTES for January and March of this year* what has been done in this matter, and what degree of success has been obtained by the librarians of the United States. The story there imperfectly told should assuredly stimulate us to like exertions which will, it is to be hoped, be ultimately crowned by a like victory.

The immense accumulations of Parliamentary business which have had the effect of checking the progress of the new Free Libraries Bill have rendered it quite hopeless to think of making any rapid or immediate progress in regard to this question. It was, of course, the duty of the Council to ascertain what steps, if any, were being taken by the Government or its officers to deal with the principle upon which public documents should be distributed. Attention was called to this subject in 1881, in the First Report of the present Controller of the Stationery Office, Mr. Pigott.† The Controller called particular attention to the distribution of the Statutes, of which he spoke in the following terms:—

"The general distribution of the Statutes is made by the printer in accordance with a 'Promulgation List,' which is a paper of some antiquarian interest, but as an official document of present application perfectly unintelligible. It was originally drawn up by a Committee of the House of Commons, and adopted by a resolution passed in 1801. The List was reconsidered in 1835 by a subsequent Committee, who reported that they had been 'unable to discover any fixed principle on which the distribution was made,' and recommended that a new List should be prepared; but it does not appear that any action was taken on their recommendation."‡

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* pp. 2—5; 50, 51.

† First Report of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1881. 8vo., pp. 33.

‡ p. 12.

The observations made by the Controller upon this and other questions connected with the Stationery Office led to the appointment of a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses of Parliament to consider Mr. Pigott's Report. The Select Committee took evidence upon the various questions relating to the printing done for Parliament and the storage and sale of Parliamentary Papers, and also upon the promulgation of the Statutes; the last being the only question with which we now propose to deal.

Questions 206 to 232 addressed to Mr. Pigott deal with this subject, and the story told by Mr. Pigott was certainly a very curious one. He told the Committee that copies of the Statutes were still printed for the use of the boroughs of Gatton—as everybody knows, one of the old rotten boroughs—and Dunwich—an old seaport, but now for many years almost entirely submerged, and for many other places as little entitled to them. The total number of copies of the Statutes, supplied at the public expense, was 1885, of which the Houses of Parliament received 770 copies; Offices and Departments of State, 50; Courts of Justice, 188; sheriffs, magistrates, &c., 807; and *Public Libraries*, 20. Mr. Pigott explained that in his opinion "the distribution of the Statutes at large at the public expense ought to be made on some intelligible principle. Whoever they might be, it ought to be clearly laid down that such and such a class of public officials, magistrates, and so on, and *libraries*, should receive Acts of Parliament; that this list should be corrected by some one in authority every year, and issues made from it."

After hearing Mr. Pigott and considering the matter, the Committee in their report recommended, "That a fresh list for the promulgation of the Statutes be drawn up by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, in communication if necessary with the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury," and "That all alterations in the revised list be made by the same authority." The report of the Select Committee is dated 29th July, 1881, on which day it was ordered by the House of Commons to be printed.*

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Select Committee, Sir William Harcourt, as Home Secretary, appointed a departmental Committee, consisting of Sir A. F. O. Liddell, Mr. Pigott, and Mr. C. J. Knyvett, one of the principal clerks in the Home Office, to draw up a fresh list for the Promulgation of the Statutes. The warrant of appointment was signed on the 10th of February, 1882. The Report of the Committee has just been printed (it is dated May 18th, 1883), and occupies, together with the appendices 139 folio pages.† We think it not unsuitable to direct the attention of our readers to the principle of distribution laid down by the Committee, and especially to the treatment accorded to libraries in this Report.

It should be observed, in the first place, that the number of copies

* Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords and the House of Commons on Stationery Office (Controller's Report). . . . Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 29th July, 1881. Folio, pp. xiv. 63.

† Report of the Committee appointed to consider the List of 1801 for the Promulgation of the Statutes, with Appendices. . . . Folio, pp. 139.

to be distributed in accordance with this new list is not diminished, but is, in fact, enlarged from 1885 or 1886* to 2366.

How now have the Committee dealt with the case of "Public Libraries, &c."? There is no more striking change in the state of things since the list of 1801 was framed than the development of libraries in this country, and especially of libraries created and maintained also at the expense of no small proportion of the rate-payers of the country. It will hardly be believed that the Committee have not added a single library to the list. Indeed, at first sight, the list appears to have been diminished, though this diminution is only apparent. To use the very words of the Committee:—

"The Public Libraries: We do not suggest any alteration as regards the supply of Statutes to these Institutions, except in respect of the libraries of Queen Anne's Bounty, First Fruits Office, and Corporation of Sons of the Clergy, which are dealt with under the head 'Public Departments.'" All they have done is to transfer these "institutions," which certainly sound oddly enough among libraries, to the head of "Public Departments," where indeed they sound nearly as oddly. It is interesting to observe how the list of libraries now stands. It is as follows:—

PUBLIC LIBRARIES, &c.

	Sets in separate acts.	Sets bound.
The Queen's Library	—	1
The Lambeth Palace Library	—	1
The British Museum	—	1
The College of Arms	—	1
Lincoln's Inn	—	1
Gray's Inn	—	1
Inner Temple	—	1
Middle Temple	—	1
The University of Oxford	1	—
The University of Cambridge	1	—
The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford	1	—
The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge	1	—
The University of London	1	—
The Chapter of Canterbury	1	—
The Chapter of York	1	—
The Chapter of St. Paul's	1	—
The Chapter of Westminster	1	—
TOTAL	17	

This is certainly a very curious list. The British Museum, Oxford, and Cambridge receive copies of the Statutes, and properly enough, but why does not the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh receive a set, and the Library of Trinity College, Dublin? Then the

* So it is stated at p. 35 of the Report. I do not quite understand the calculation on p. 36, which makes the old number 1961.—ED.

University of London receives a copy: but why not the University of Durham, or the Victoria University, or the Scotch Universities? So, again, four Chapters in all England and Wales are singled out: why should not other Chapters be supplied? Here, certainly, we look in vain to see how the Committee proposes to carry out Mr. Pigott's "intelligible principle." But a more curious and glaring question still should surely have presented itself to the minds of the Committee? Why should the College of Arms and three or four Chapters be supplied with sets of the Statutes at the public expense, and not the libraries maintained by the ratepayers of Liverpool and Manchester, of Birmingham and Bristol, not to name a hundred other places? We may ask the question, indeed, but where is the answer to it? Yet the question should be asked and asked and asked again until some sort of answer is extorted from the Stationery Office or the Treasury.

It may be worth while to give a few illustrations of the extravagances with which it is still proposed to bestow copies of the Statutes upon some favoured *institutions* and *individuals*, while the infinitely greater claims of the public libraries are wholly ignored.

To begin with, no less than 218 sets are given to members of the House of Lords, besides which many of its leading members receive duplicate and even triplicate copies from the Privy Council Office, or as being officers of State. The number assigned to the House of Commons—viz., 22 copies, is in singular contrast to the liberality shown to the House of Lords.

It is difficult to see the reason for the inclusion of some of the so-called departments of State. Why, for instance, should copies be supplied at the public expense to such institutions or "departments" as the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, Queen Anne's Bounty Office, and the Consistory Court of Hereford?

The most unjustifiable waste is shown in the treatment of some great officers. Thus the Lord Chancellor, in addition to the set which he is entitled to as a peer, receives one from the Privy Council* Office, and no less than three sets as Chancellor. It is even more absurd that the Archbishop of Canterbury, in addition to his copy as a peer, receives *three* in his capacity of archbishop, and a further copy for the Lambeth Palace Library!

The entire number of copies absorbed by the Houses of Parliament, the State Departments, and the Courts of Justice, amounts to 752. The remaining 1597 copies (which, together with the 17 copies allotted to libraries, make up the total of 2366) are distributed to municipal magistrates, the chief magistrates or head officers of every city, borough, and town corporate, and the clerks of the magistrates of boroughs which have a commission of the peace under the Municipal Corporations Act; and finally, in counties, to sheriffs, clerks of the peace and lord lieutenants, to chairmen of Quarter

* It is curious to note that a set is supplied by the Privy Council Office to the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Master of the Horse respectively (p. 41).

Sessions and Petty Sessional Divisions altogether, no less than 1002 sets are distributed to county officials and magistrates.

The Committe report that they felt considerable difficulty as to the mode of distribution in this class, and as to the preservation of the Statutes for public purposes. They issued a series of questions to the county authorities; and the replies, which are printed in an appendix to their Report, deserve particular attention. The Committee themselves sum up the effect of these replies as follows:—

1. "That (with some few exceptions) *no general system exists for the preservation of the Statutes*, or for the transmission of them from clerk to clerk of Petty Sessional Divisions, or from magistrate to magistrate.

2. That, with the exception of copies kept by clerks of the peace and those maintained for the use of Courts of Quarter Sessions, *there are hardly any complete sets from the year* 1801.

3. That *many* clerks and *most* magistrates look upon the copies supplied to them as *their private property;* and that (with some few exceptions) no steps are taken *on a change of clerks*, from death or other causes, to secure to their successor the possession of Statutes, which have been supplied at the public expense.

4. That in the case of *magistrates* it would appear that *in most instances* the Statutes are placed in their libraries, and *pass, as a matter of course*, to their representatives.

5. Many of the clerks report that they consider themselves entitled to retain the Statutes *as private property*, inasmuch as they are at the expense of binding them."*

The Committee do not, however, call particular attention to the replies received to one of their questions, which is of importance for our present purpose. They asked the County Authorities to say, "14. Assuming that such arrangements do not at present exist, could regulations be established to render the copies of the Statutes supplied for the use of Courts of Quarter and Petty Sessions *available for public use*, by keeping them at the courts or places where such Sessions are held?"

From the general nature of the answers received to this question it appears that for the most part the Statutes supplied to the County Authorities are not generally available for public use. It is also pointed out in at least one answer,† that the copies are really more available for public use by being kept at the clerks' offices, which are open daily, than by their being kept at the court-houses, which are only occasionally open.

It does not appear to have presented itself to the attention of the Committee that so far as the use of the Statutes by the general public is concerned, there would be no place so appropriate as the public library supported by the ratepayers, wherever there is such an institution. The law of England assumes and must necessarily assume, that the Statutes are known to every member of the community. The principle upon which the extensive distribu-

* p. 8. † Report: App. G, p. 60.

tion of the Statutes, to which we have here called attention is founded, is doubtless that it is the duty of the Government to promulgate new Statutes as widely as possible. It does not seem unreasonable to suggest that one of the most obvious and desirable ways of attaining this object is to deposit a copy of the Statutes in every library established under the Free Libraries Acts. These libraries, it may not unfairly be asserted, have a peculiar claim to consideration in this very connection. They are established and supported by the ratepayers acting, as it were, in a political capacity as citizens, and as citizens they are entitled to be supplied by the Government which they support with the fullest possible information upon public affairs, and it may be confidently maintained that they offer guarantees for safety and permanence, at all events in the case of all the larger libraries, such as are not to be obtained under the present system.

The publication of this Report is indeed so far satisfactory that it is a first step towards putting the distribution of public documents upon a fixed and intelligible footing. It is clear that here is the point at which the public libraries of the country should take their stand. The principle of including public libraries is confirmed afresh by the present Report. What we have now to ask is that libraries which are public in so many senses of the word may be put upon an equal footing with the libraries of the College of Arms and of the Chapters of Canterbury and York. To this demand there can ultimately be but one answer—an answer in accordance with the spirit and circumstances of the times and which have altered since the year 1801 in nothing more notably than in respect of the development of public libraries. EDITOR.

LIBRARY STATISTICS AGAIN: OR, THE HISTORY OF A PARAGRAPH.

In our April number we called attention to a certain paragraph which had found its way into the editorial columns of the *Bibliographer*, on the Libraries of Paris and their statistics. We remarked that, among other curious features of the list given in this paragraph, was the mention of the Bibliothèque du Louvre, which was burnt in 1871, to which indeed we might have added the Bibliothèque des Avocats, which was also burnt in the same year; but the oddest thing in the list was the statement, which we faintly characterised as "innocent and astonishing," that "the Bibliothèque Nationale contains more than half a million volumes," and we contrasted with these figures the figures given in the new edition of *Encyclopædia Britannica* (2,290,000, exclusive of MSS.)

We confess that we should have expected anyone who had the slightest knowledge of library matters, and *a fortiori* anyone claiming to be an expert, to have seen at once the justice of our observations. We were certainly surprised, therefore, to see the editor of the *Bibliographer* make the following reply in his July number (p. 56):—

"In printing these statistics we omitted our authority. This oversight we are glad to have the opportunity of setting right. The French Minister of Public Instruction is responsible for the figures, which are taken from his report and printed in the *Chronique* of the *Bibliographie de la France*. Whether the statement of the Minister of Public Instruction is 'innocent,' and whether the editor of the *Monthly Notes*, and the *Encyclopædia Britannica* are better authorities on the subject of French libraries than this distinguished official, we must leave for others to settle."

We were naturally a little impressed by the confidence with which the editor of the *Bibliographer* fell back for support upon the French Minister of Public Instruction. But it was impossible to believe that a Minister of *Instruction*, of all people in the world, could be responsible for a paragraph abounding in orthographical and even grammatical blunders. And that the figures were correct not fifty Ministers of Public Instruction would have convinced us, or, we beg leave to think, anyone who knows anything of the subject.

Our next step, therefore, was to look at the paragraph in the *Chronique* of the *Bibliographie de la France*, where it appeared on the 13th of January last. Here indeed we did not find the grammatical errors which disfigured the paragraph as it appeared in the *Bibliographer*, nor did we find any mention of the *Minister* of Public Instruction. This "distinguished official," like the amusing variations* of the paragraph in its English form, thus appears to owe his existence to the printer of the *Bibliographer*.

We did indeed find that the paragraph, printed, it should be observed, under the heading "Faits Divers,"—and we all know what to expect under that heading in a French newspaper—was introduced by the sentence, "Le Ministère de l'Instruction Publique vient de terminer une intéressante statistique." Now, to say nothing of the blunder of translating "Ministère" into Minister, we believe that the introduction of the Ministry of Public Instruction into this paragraph is due to some myrmidon in the printing office of the *Chronique*: at all events we are in a position to *prove* that the phrase "vient de terminer" is an absolute invention or falsification of those who have put this paragraph into fresh circulation.

For, as it happens, we are able to tell the editor of the *Bibliographer* something of the history of this paragraph, over which he has charitably endeavoured to throw the cloak of the French Minister of Public Instruction.

The paragraph in question, almost *verbatim* as it appeared in the *Chronique* of 13th January, 1883, was printed in the non-official portion of the *Journal Officiel* of the 9th of August, 1876, which lies before us as we write, where it is introduced by a statement that the figures are taken from the *Débats*.

We have accordingly been at the trouble of looking up the *Journal des Débats*, and in its issue for the 6th of August, 1876 (p. 3*a*, *b*),

* Such as Cours de Cassation for Cour de Cassation, Musée d'Histoire Naturel (*sic*), Hospital "Laribornere" for "Lariboisière," &c. &c.

under the same heading of "Faits Divers," we find the same paragraph. In neither case is there any mention of a minister or ministry of any sort, or the least intimation that the figures are drawn from official sources, but merely a general intimation, which may mean anything, and here means rather less than anything, that "les chiffres sont d'une exactitude aussi précise que possible."

So much for the later history of this paragraph, for we are far from believing that we have traced it to its origin. The inclusion of the libraries of the Avocats, and especially of the Louvre, is sufficient to indicate that it is older than the war of 1870-71, for it is matter of common knowledge that these libraries were burnt in 1871 during the Commune. We invite the editor of the *Bibliographer*, who is of course anxious to give his readers the latest and most accurate information, to join us in our researches, unless, that is, he holds the maxim of French jurisprudence to apply even to literary matters, "la récherche de la paternité est interdite." At least we may ask him to inform his readers if he still thinks the Printer's Devil of the *Journal de l'Imprimerie* a better authority than the "Editor of the *Monthly Notes*" and the Administrateur-Général of the *Bibliothèque Nationale*.

As the history of this paragraph is, we venture to think, of some interest, and as the editor of the *Bibliographer* has questioned the value of the statistical information in the article in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, perhaps we may be excused for quoting a few lines from Mr. Cutter's notice of that article:—*

"The statistics of the chief libraries of the world with which it closes are the most satisfactory portion. They are brought down to the latest time, and Messrs. Tedder and Thomas's success in previous efforts of this kind makes it certain that they are trustworthy. Perhaps their work will repress for a time the erratic exuberance of the newspapers in this regard. Everyone who is interested in the subject must have noticed the continual appearance of items on the number of volumes in the chief libraries, founded on the statistics sometimes of the last decade, sometimes of the last century, and sometimes of a distant future."

Mr. Cutter's warning has not availed to prevent the importation of a stupid and antiquated paragraph into the pages of the *Bibliographer*. Perhaps this repetition of the warning may stop its career before it finds its way into some literary or scientific journal.

Finally we may point out that in the *Journal Officiel* of the 26th of July, 1874, may be found a "Rapport adressé au Min^re ... par l'Administrateur-Général de la Bibliothèque Nationale," in which the number of volumes in the library will be found to be stated by this "distinguished official" *not* at the beautifully vague figure of "over half a million," but as 2,077,571. It was upon this, the latest official document, that the figures given in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* and repeated in the *Monthly Notes* were originally based.

EDITOR.

* In the *Nation* of October 19th, 1882; reprinted, *Library Journal*, January, 1883, p. 7.

LIBRARY NOTES.

AUCKLAND (NEW ZEALAND).—On the 5th of June Sir George Grey, who has presented a library to Auckland, as we have already recorded in these pages, delivered an address to the citizens of Auckland in the Theatre Royal "Upon the principles which should guide the citizens in founding a Free Public Library." The address is reported at length in the *New Zealand Herald* of the following day. It was announced that the city was in a position, from the funds they had in hand—the munificent bequest of the late Mr. Edward Costley—to take steps for the erection of necessary buildings for the Free Public Library and Art Gallery. A vote of thanks was given to Sir George Grey for his address and for the "munificent gift of his valuable library to the citizens of Auckland."

BETHNAL GREEN. — The Committee of this Institution have published a statement to the effect that after seven years' incessant labour they have secured a valuable collection of books, magazines, &c., numbering about 17,000, all of which have been presented. The books, &c., are deposited in suitable premises, which include the library, newspaper and magazine room, ladies reading room and lecture hall, and which have been erected at a cost of £5,000. The Library was opened to the public on the 22nd of December, 1881. Additional shelves are much required to accommodate the large number of volumes, reviews, journals, and magazines that have been recently given, which will, with other expenses, involve a further outlay of £100. The Library is entirely supported by voluntary contributions, which are greatly needed to meet the annual expenditure that cannot consistently with the efficient maintenance of so important a work be less than £300. The Committee, therefore, appeal to the public for the required amounts above named.

CAMBRIDGE.—The Council have approved of plans for the erection of a new Reading Room in connection with the Free Library. The room will cost £2000.

DARLINGTON. — The ratepayers have decided to adopt the Libraries Acts, and will thus be able to avail themselves of the offer made by the executors of Mr. Edward Pease (see p. 62). The executors have also offered themselves to give £100. as the heading of a subscription list for books.

DONCASTER.—An attempt has been lately made at Doncaster to arrange equitable terms by which the outlying townships of Doncaster might enjoy the benefits of the Public Library. In the case of one of these—Wheatley—at a preliminary meeting of the ratepayers, held on May 29, a resolution was unanimously carried in favour of the Acts, and a Committee was formed. A meeting of the ratepayers was accordingly called by the overseers and held on June 28, when the proposal was rejected by 66 votes to 14. Mr. Ballinger, the Librarian of the Public Library, Doncaster, was present, but was barely allowed a hearing. He continued, however, to state that his Committee had found it necessary to issue an order to stop all those persons from borrowing who were not rated or

resident within the borough, and that a considerable number of persons from Wheatley who used the Library would have to be stopped. A fuller statement of the case is made by Mr. Ballinger in the letter published in the *Doncaster Chronicle* of July 6th.

HACKNEY.—The Hackney Vestry has decided to accept the offer made by the Rev. R. Daniel Tyssen, the Rector of South Hackney, of his father's collection, relating to Hackney and its celebrities, to form the nucleus of a Free Library, and a room at the Town Hall has been selected for the purpose.

HUDDERSFIELD.—On Saturday, July 7th, the Duke of Somerset, K.G., performed the double ceremony of opening the new Technical School and Mechanics' Institute and a Fine Art and Industrial Exhibition in connexion with it. The Huddersfield Mechanics' Institute dates back more than forty years and during that period has rendered the most valuable services to primary, secondary and technical education. Some years ago a joint committee of the Institute and the Chamber of Commerce determined to erect a new building. Twenty thousand pounds has been expended upon a handsome and commodious structure, which, includes chemistry and dyeing rooms, weaving shed, art rooms, library, &c. About £16,000 has been raised already, and it is hoped to raise a portion of the remainder by means of the exhibition. The articles exhibited form a collection hardly, if at all, inferior to those exhibited at Bradford last year.

INVERNESS.—The Free Library which has been formed in the new building in the Castle Wynd in connexion with a Museum and School of Art was formally opened on Saturday, June 16th, by Mr. Charles Fraser Mackintosh, M.P. The Acts were adopted at a public meeting on July 4th, 1877, with only three dissentients. Before that, however, the Town Council had purchased the books of the Subscription Library to form the beginning of a Free Library, and Mr. Mitchell, of Viewhill, promised £500 for books. The income of the Library from the vote will be about £300. The number of volumes is over 5400, and a catalogue of them has already been prepared.

LIVERPOOL.—The annual meeting of the proprietors of the Liverpool Library was held on May 21st, in the New City Hall, the Rev. Wm. Banister, V.P., in the chair. It was announced that notice of appeal had been lodged against the decision of Mr. Justice Chitty in the recently-heard suit of Peacock *v.* Sinclair. (A summary of the report will be found at p. 99.)

LONDON LIBRARY.—The annual meeting of the members was held on May 31st, the Earl of Carnarvon in the chair. It was announced that a notice of motion by Mr. Hodgkinson to the effect that the Library should be open during at least three evenings in the week was withdrawn. The chairman congratulated the members upon the satisfactory character of the report (a summary of which will be found at p. 99). There seemed to have been an increase when there should be one, and a decrease when there should be a reduction. The usual business terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair-

man. We learn from the report that the appeal made last year to the members of the Library for assistance in forming a special collection of old reviews and magazines met with a generous response on the part of many members, and produced a total number of 622 volumes. Some of these gifts were duplicates of sets already in the Library, and they are found very useful in enabling the librarian to keep one set at home for reference while the other was in circulation. An interesting collection of works written by foreigners on the subject of Great Britain, numbering 400 volumes, was presented by Mrs. Edwin Edwards. Mrs. Jervis presented 500 volumes, collected by the late Rev. W. Henley Jervis for the purpose of his History of the Church of France. The Rev. Dr. Holden, of Ipswich, presented 88 volumes, consisting chiefly of modern Latin poetry.

NOTTINGHAM.—At the June meeting of the Town Council a letter was read from the Nottingham Literary and Philosophical Society, announcing that it had been decided to dissolve the Society, and offering the residue of its property, after payment of debts and liabilities, to the University College Free Library and Museum Committee, besides scientific collections and apparatus, and a balance of £47. in cash. The gift includes a library of 640 volumes, together with the Proceedings of the Ray, Palæontographical and other Societies, and nearly 100 pamphlets and reports. A resolution to accept the gift with thanks was unanimously carried.

ROTHERHAM.—A valuable gift of books has just been made to Rotherham College, consisting of the library of the late Rev. Dr. Harrison, Vicar of Fenwick, near Doncaster, who died on the 26th of February last. The number of books is about 1700, and consist mainly of critical and patristic works, including about 300 folio volumes of the Latin and Greek Fathers, the works of the German, Swiss, and English reformers, and works relating to recent Church controversies, especially on the question of the Eucharist. The books have been placed in a special room, which will be known as the Harrison Library.

TAUNTON.—The Taunton Somerset Institution, Market House, Taunton, has been given up after an existence of over sixty years, and its library and effects were disposed of by auction on May 21st. The collection comprised about 2000 volumes.

TORONTO (CANADA).—The Free Library Scheme, having passed the ordeal of the popular vote and the attempt to kill it off in the Council by refusing to vote the necessary appropriation, is in a fair way of success. The Library Board starts with a fund of £10,000, besides a building worth £6,000. It is proposed to purchase at once 30,000 volumes. The annual income will be from £2,500 to £3,000, with an increase of ten per cent. per annum. The *Globe* (Toronto) suggests the idea of building up a complete collection of works of reference, the amalgamation of other small libraries existing for a similar purpose. A special collection of Canada literature is also suggested.

WANDSWORTH.—We are indebted to a courteous communication from Mr. E. Erskine Greville, the Vestry Clerk, for the information

that the Library Acts have just been adopted at Wandsworth by a majority of 1868.

WIMBLEDON.—The Library Acts were adopted at Wimbledon on June 21st by a majority of 81 upon a poll. The opinion of the ratepayers had already been taken in the two previous years. This is the fifth instance of the adoption of the Acts in the districts on this side of London.

The Sixth Annual Convention of the American Library Association will be held at Buffalo on Tuesday and three following days. An opening address will be delivered by the President, Prof. Justin Windsor. We hope that our American colleagues may have a pleasant and successful gathering.

The final result of the negociations for the purchase for the British Museum of a portion of the Ashburnham Manuscripts has been that the Treasury has agreed to give £45,000 for the Stowe Collection without the Appendix. A parliamentary paper is to be issued on the subject.

The account of the Library of Magdalen College, Oxford, which has been contributed to *Notes and Queries* by the librarian, the Rev. W. A. B. Coolidge, is concluded in the issue for June 9th.

The *Manchester City News* (which is edited by our member, Mr. J. H. Nodal) prints a monthly list of the principal additions to the Central Free Library at Manchester. The *Leeds Mercury*, we believe, prints a weekly list of additions to the Leeds Public Library.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Dublin. Supplemental Catalogue of Books, by Author, Title, Subject and Class, added to the National Library of Ireland during the year 1880. Dublin: for Her Majesty's Stationery Office. 8vo, pp. xi.-455, cloth.

This catalogue, which has been prepared by Mr. William Archer, who signs the preface, is a most thorough and satisfactory piece of work. As the title will have indicated, it is compiled upon the Dictionary plan, and on the lines laid down by Mr. Cutter. The compiler, who has the advantage of speaking from considerable experience, speaks very confidently of the utility of this kind of catalogue not only in the library itself, but also outside the library as a guide to reading. The entries, with the exception of the main or author entry, are as far as possible restricted to one or two lines, and the nature of the entry is indicated by corresponding varieties of type. In the case of the main entry the title is given in full, or, if condensed, the individuality is respected as far as possible. Contents are given in numerous cases, and the number of pages, and of illustrations, &c., followed by the place of publication, and the publisher's name, and date. Some of the larger subject entries are exceedingly full, specially the names of Countries, Criticisms, Essays, Fine Arts, History, Literature, Natural Sciences, Philology, Philosophy, Sociology, Theology, Useful Arts. Under Biography we find no less than 37 sub-heads of professions, &c.; the entries in small type extending over more than five pages. Altogether we cannot imagine how the work could be more thoroughly and adequately planned, while the care with which it has been done, and the remarkable freedom from typographical or clerical errors reflect the utmost credit upon cataloguer and printer. We wish that every library in the country might be provided with such a list of its yearly accessions; and we could wish it no greater boon.

Liverpool. Annual Supplementary Catalogue of the Liverpool Library (with the Laws and Report), 1883. Liverpool, 1883. 8vo. pp. 78.

The annual list of accessions is prepared with Mr. Wakefield's usual care. The "Novels and Tales" are kept together, and not included in the general alphabet. The one hundred and twenty-fourth annual report states that the issues during the year were 60,697, being a slight decrease on the previous year. The income was £1,310.; and the year closed with a balance in hand of £87. 8s. 1d. The amount expended on purchase and hire of books and bookbinding was £636. 0s. 11d.

Nottingham Mechanics' Institution. Catalogue of the Lending and Reference Libraries, compiled by J. T. Radford, Sub-librarian. Nottingham, 1883. Price 6d. 8vo, pp. iii.-144, double col.

This is the catalogue of a good library of about 13,000 volumes, part of which consists of a small local collection. By far the larger portion of the books belong to the lending department; those in the reference department extending only from p. 133 to 142. A short list of assumed names is affixed (2 pp.) The catalogue is compiled upon the dictionary system, and is printed in a small but clear type. The contents of collectaneous works are set out, but not those of periodicals. It is a solid and careful bit of work.

Manor of Aston Local Board. The Fifth Annual Report of the Free Libraries' Committee, March 26th, 1882 to March 25th, 1883. Aston, 8vo, pp. 16 and wrapper.

The issues for the year were: in the reference department, 8,096; in the lending department, 75,395 volumes. The stock is now, in the reference department, 3,216 volumes; in the lending department, 5,582 volumes. A local collection has been commenced, and a catalogue is in type. It is hoped soon to establish branch news rooms. The rate produced £509. 12s. 3d.

Glasgow. Annual Report of Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library, 1882-83, with Proceedings of Annual Meeting of Subscribers, held on 10th April, 1883. Glasgow, 1883. 8vo, pp. 16 and wrapper.

The issues and the number of new members enrolled far exceeded those in any previous year. The issues were: in the reference department, 53,981 as compared with 34,641 the previous year; in the lending department, 50,733, as compared with 22,822 the previous year. The increase this year was nearly twofold. During the year 1,115 volumes and pamphlets were added. The number of new subscribers was 298, and the total number of members is now 664. The income was: from rent £390., from subscriptions £261. 16s. 11d. The Directors refer to the cordial relations always subsisting between this institution and the Mitchell Library, which as far as possible are worked as one.

London. Report of the Committee of the London Library to the Forty-second Annual General Meeting of the Members, Thursday, May 31, 1883. [Followed by List of Additions.] 8vo, pp. 53.

The Committee report that 183 members had been added during the year, while 157 had been lost by withdrawal or death, leaving a net increase of 25. The number of members now on the register is 1,737. The receipts were £4,687. and the expenditure £4,120. The amount expended upon books was £992. 16s. 3d. The accessions to the library numbered 4,942, a very large proportion being by donation. The number of volumes sent out for circulation was 97,957, being a decrease of 1,274 upon the previous year. (For an account of the meeting see p. 96.)

Nottingham. Forty-fifth Annual Report of the Nottingham Mechanics' Institution. . . Nottingham, 1883. 8vo, pp. 15.

The number of members on the books in 1882 was 2,892, being a decrease of 237, though the income was larger by £66. 3s. 5d. The accessions to the library

by purchase or presentation were 749, making the number of volumes now in library 13,164. A new Catalogue (see notice, *supra*) was compiled by Mr. T. T. Radford the new Assistant-Librarian, whose services are acknowledged by the Committee.

Richmond. Free Public Library, Richmond, Surrey. Second Annual Report of the Committee, 1882-83. Richmond, 1883. 8vo, pp. 16.

The issues for the second year of the working of the library were: in the lending department 79,060, in the reference department 6,844. These figures on the whole compare favourably with those of the first year (198 days), when they were 60,403 and 7,320 respectively. The daily attendance for the year is estimated at 1,217 persons. The accessions for the year were 995, of which 642 were donations. The Committee regret that the ordinary income has not been equal to the ordinary expenditure. The rate for the year produced £378. 14s. 7d. The dinner fund (see *M. N.*, Vol. III, p. 111) produced £108. 11s. 6d. The usual tables are appended.

Twickenham. Free Public Library. First Annual Report, 1882-83. Richmond, 1883. 8vo, pp. 16.

The Acts were adopted on the 11th February, 1882. Sir Charles Freake kindly allotted three rooms in the Town Hall for the use of the library, and the newsroom was opened on the 2nd October. From that date to the close of the year (147 days) it was visited by 31,567 persons. The libraries, with a stock of over 3000 volumes, were opened on the 24th of February, and the number of borrowers during the 21 days up to the 25th of March was 2,358. The extraordinary expenses of the first year were very heavy, amounting to £303., but the Committee expect that the product of the rate (about £290.) will henceforward maintain the library in an efficient condition.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of "MONTHLY NOTES."

To members who, like myself, were called upon in 1881 to pay the heightened price of 14*s.* per vol. of the "Transactions," some explanation seems due of the fact that these are now being retailed by an Edinburgh bookseller at 6*s.* 6*d.* per vol. Apparently the stock has been larger than we were led to believe, and the public are now enjoying an advantage which it would have been sound policy, not to say fair, to have first offered to the members of the Association.

Aberdeen, May 22. A. W. R.

QUERY.

In what Catalogue, or where is there a setting-out of the *Archæologia, The Journal of the Archæological Association*, or *The Archæological Journal?* ARCHÆOLOGIST.

NOTICE.

In answer to several correspondents the editor begs to state that the only numbers of the first three volumes of MONTHLY NOTES out of print are those for October and November, 1881. The other numbers may be obtained from Messrs. Trübner & Co., 57, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

LONDON: *Printed and Sold for the Association by* J. DAVY & SONS, *Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre.*

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VOL. 4. NOS. 8 & 9.] [*August* 15 *and September* 15, 1883.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—The Liverpool Meeting—Report of the Council; with the Treasurer's and Auditors' Report—Library Notes—Library Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Books—Correspondence.

THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LIVERPOOL MEETING, on the 11th September, are now tolerably complete. The following will probably be the order of business:—

Tuesday, September 11th, 9.45 for 10 a.m.—President's Address; Mr. T. E. Stephens on "The Rise and Growth of Public Libraries in America;" Mr. Peter Cowell on "The Origin and History of some Liverpool Libraries;" Professor R. K. Douglas on "Chinese Libraries;" and Mr. Henry Stevens on "Founders of Libraries: James Lenox."

Wednesday, September 12th, at 9.45: Chancellor Christie on "Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire;" Mr. John Lovell on "Functions and Operations of the Free Library System;" Mr. Samuel Smith on "Library Pests;" and Mr. William Henman, A.R.I.B.A., on "Free Library Buildings; their Arrangement and Fittings."

Thursday, September 13th, at 9.45: Mr. W. R. Credland on "Starved Free Libraries;" Mr. T. Formby on "A Proposed System of Differential Rating for Free Libraries;" Mr. John Southward on "Technical Literature and Free Public Libraries."

Friday, September 14th, at 9.45: Mr. E. C. Thomas on "Q: an Experiment in Bibliology."

The programme will also include Reports from the Committees on Illustrations to the Cataloguing Rules and on Size-notation, besides which special reports may be presented on the Examination of Library Assistants and on Classification.

The unofficial arrangements for the Meeting include a Reception and Soireé and Dinner by the Local Committee, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, besides which there will be visits to Knowsley, by permission of Lord Derby, and by invitation of Lord Crawford and Balcarres to Haigh Hall. There will be an excursion on the river in a steamer kindly placed at our disposal by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, and numerous visits to places of interest.

His Worship, the Mayor of Liverpool, has issued invitations to a Dinner, on Thursday evening, so that those who have received invitations will find it more convenient to visit Haigh Hall on Friday.

Certain notices of motion have been given for the Meeting. The Hon. Secretary has given notice of his intention to move: "That a Committee be appointed to revise the Constitution, and to report to the Meeting at Liverpool.

Mr. F. T. Barrett, Librarian of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, has also given notice to move again, if necessary, the motion which he brought forward at our Cambridge Meeting:—"That the Council be requested to draw up for the consideration of the Annual Meeting of 1884 a scheme for the classification of books in a library.

The Council have given notice that they will propose for immediate election at Cambridge, any non-librarians who may have been unable to give the usual one-month's notice.

The following gentlemen being engaged in library administration have become Members of the Association:—Mr. R. G. Brook, Member of the Free Library Committee, St. Helen's; Mr. Henry Burns, Librarian, South Free Lending Library, Liverpool; Mr. Alderman Cannon, Chairman of the Free Library Committee, Bolton; Mr. W. Cockerell, J.P., Member of the Free Library Committee, Cambridge; Mr. M. Comerford, Librarian, Free Library, Dundalk; Prof. R. K. Douglas, Assistant Keeper of Printed Books, British Museum; Mr. Dromgoole, Member of the Free Library Committee, St. Helen's; Mr. Thomas Formby, Sub-Librarian, Free Public Library, Liverpool; Mr. John Frowde, Librarian, Free Library, Barrow-in-Furness; Mr. Walter Huntley, Librarian, North Free Lending Library, Liverpool; Mr. J. D. Jones, Librarian, Free Public Library, Runcorn; Mr. James MacIvor, Librarian, King's Inns' Library, Dublin; Mr. William May, Assistant-Librarian, Free Public Library, Liverpool; Mr. J. Henry Quinn, Assistant-Librarian, Free Public Library, Liverpool; Mr. T. Stanley, Free Library, Wednesbury; and Mr. C. G. Virgo, Librarian, Free Public Library, Bradford.

It may be convenient and may save new Members some trouble if it is explained here that the financial year of the Association ends on October 4 in each year. The subscription paid therefore for the Liverpool Meeting by incoming Members, though it covers the Meeting and entitles them to a copy of its Transactions, does not extend beyond the 4th of October next. If it is desired to continue membership for next year the convenient course will probably be to pay the subscription for next year also, which will be due in advance on the 5th of October next.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council have the pleasure of presenting to the members their report on the work and progress of the Association during the Sixth Year of its existence.

Cambridge Meeting.—The Annual Meeting of last year at Cambridge was, perhaps, the most enjoyable and successful of all our annual gatherings. This was largely due to the great interest shown in our proceedings by the University and Municipal Authorities of Cambridge, and the courteous hospitality extended to us; but above all to the personal efforts and kindliness of our late President, Mr. Henry Bradshaw, who has laid the whole Association under an obligation which the Council are glad to have this opportunity of acknowledging.

Members.—It will be remembered that there was some discussion at Cambridge upon the question of the arrears of subscriptions due from many Members, and the Council undertook to deal with the whole matter during the year. The list of Members has accordingly been carefully revised, and was printed and issued with the January number of the *Monthly Notes*. The result of the revision was that about 40 names were struck off the list. Notwithstanding this serious depletion of the list, the number of Members on the roll at the 31st August is 380, as against 368 at the date of the last Report. Of this number 30 are Honorary Members. There has accordingly been a not insignificant increase of 12 during the year, and a still further accession to our numbers may be expected at Liverpool. The number of Life Members is 22.

Officers.—The Council regret that during the year they have lost the valuable services of Mr. J. W. Bone as an Auditor of the Association. The Council have appointed Mr. G. R. Humphery and Mr. J. Whittall to serve as Auditors for the present year. They have also to announce that they have been offered and have accepted the services of a professional gentleman to assist the Auditors, upon conditions which appear to the Council to be very satisfactory. It is with much regret also that they announce that Mr. E. B. Nicholson and Mr. Pink have tendered their resignations as Members of the Council. The Council feel particular regret that Mr. Pink's resignation is caused by an illness, which will also prevent him attending the Liverpool Meeting. The Council feel sure that the Members of

the Association will join with them in wishing Mr. Pink a speedy restoration to health and strength.

Obituary.—The Association has lost several Members by death during the year, including Mr. C. H. Bayley, of West Bromwich: Lieut. T. D. Sullivan, of London; Mr. George Lovejoy, of Reading; Mr. J. C. Woodhill, of Birmingham; Mr. Richard Platt, of Wigan; and Mr. W. Brace. Mr. Brace was a zealous and useful Member of the Association, and, besides holding the office of Auditor of the Association, was for two years Editor of THE MONTHLY NOTES. A resolution expressing regret at his loss was passed at the January Monthly Meeting.

Monthly Meetings.—The usual Monthly Meetings have been held during the year. The use of their Committee-room has been continued to us by the kindness and courtesy of the Board of Managers of the London Institution, and the Council have again the pleasant duty of tendering them hearty thanks on behalf of the Association.

At the Second Meeting (November 3rd) Mr. C. Pfoundes read a Paper on "Japanese Libraries and Books."

At the Third Meeting (December 1) Mr. H. R. Tedder read a Paper on "A French Librarian on Librarianship."

At the Fourth Meeting (January 5) on "The Distribution of Public Documents to Libraries in the United States."

At the Fifth Meeting (February 2) Papers were read by Mr. Credland on "Free Public Libraries in 1882;" and by Mr. Tedder on "The Bibliography of 1882."

At the Sixth Meeting (March 2), Mr. E. C. Thomas read a Paper on "Classed Catalogues, and the New Classed Catalogue of the German Reichsgericht."

At the Seventh Meeting (April 6), Mr. G. R. Humphery read a paper on "Librarians and the Working Classes."

At the Eighth Meeting (May 4) Papers were read by Mr. Henry Wilson on "An old English Text: the Speculum Vitæ Christi;" and by Mr. A. Allchin on "The Communal Library of Abbeville on the Somme."

By a resolution of the Council the Monthly Meetings for July, August and September were suspended.

Committees.—The work done by Committees during the year has not been very considerable, but it must be obvious that it is too much to expect that a few Members who happen to be resident in London can be expected to sacrifice so large a share of their scanty leisure as would be demanded for the adequate treatment of those difficult and complicated questions which are usually assigned to Committees. In view of this circumstance, and also of the advantage to be derived from the co-operation of our leading provincial Members, the Council have passed the following resolution, which they seriously commend to the consideration of the Liverpool Meeting:—

> "Resolved: That in the opinion of the Council it is desirable that a larger amount of work should be done by Committees meeting in connexion with the Annual Meetings."

The Committee on Size Notation has had the question once more under consideration, and will, it is expected, report to the Meeting at Liverpool.

The Committee on Illustrations to the Cataloguing Rules has collected a number of proposed examples, which have been printed, and will be laid before the Annual Meeting, together with some further recommendations.

Free Libraries Bill.—The Council regret that the pressure upon the time of Parliament has been so great that the Free Libraries Bill has practically had no chance whatever of being considered. It may be hoped that in the next Session they may have an opportunity of doing all that they can to assist in the carrying of a satisfactory measure.

Distribution of Public Documents.—The same large accumulation of parliamentary work has made it almost hopeless for the Council to do anything definite in the direction indicated by the resolution passed at the Cambridge meeting. The first step has been taken towards placing the distribution of the Statutes on a better footing in the recent issue of a new Promulgation List, in which, however, the Council regret to notice no sufficient regard has been had to the claims of Public Libraries, and especially of libraries supported by the ratepayers.

Proposed Examination of Library Assistants.—A Sub-Committee of Council has been appointed to consider the question of holding an examination. The Council have passed a resolution to the effect that an examination should be held, if required, in the month of April or May next. They further recommend that advantage should be taken of the Liverpool Meeting to form a larger Committee of the Council to discuss the question and report specially to the Meeting.

Classification.—In pursuance of the Cambridge resolution requesting the Council to submit a scheme of Classification, the Council have had the matter under their consideration. It is, however, a matter o :such complexity and importance, and they find that there is (as was indeed to be expected) so much difference of opinion on the subject, that they are not as yet prepared to submit a definite proposal. Mr. Barrett who moved the resolution at Cambridge, has given notice of his intention to move, if necessary, that the reference to the Council be continued.

Constitution.—At the October Monthly Meeting the Council were requested to "consider the desirability of offering to the next Annual Meeting of the Association, a rule to prescribe the amount of subscription proper to be paid by libraries or other institutions, and the privileges to be accorded them." The Council accordingly propose to submit the question to the consideration of the Meeting. As certain other slight changes have been suggested to them, the Hon. Secretary has given formal notice of a motion at Liverpool, "that a Committee be appointed to re-consider the constitution and report thereon to the present Meeting."

Transactions.—The Council have had the pleasant duty in several previous reports of acknowledging the service which Mr. B. F.

Stevens has rendered to the Association by undertaking the publication of its Transactions. The assistance afforded us in our early days, when our income was small, was most valuable, and will not be forgotten. Now however that our numbers have grown, the Council have felt justified in undertaking the publication of the Transactions, and henceforward they will be the property of the Association.

The Council regret exceedingly that the Transactions of the London and Cambridge Meetings are not yet in the hands of Members. But it is only right that the Association should be informed that the Council and the Officers are not altogether responsible for the delay. The publication of the London volume was chiefly a financial question. And when, largely with a view to economy, it was finally decided to issue the transactions of the two meetings in one volume, the difficulty was not wholly met. It was found impossible to collect the Papers, and the Hon. Secretary reports that even now no less than five of the Papers read at the Cambridge Meeting are not yet received for press, although he has done all he can to secure them. It must be obvious that if the Editor of the volume is not supported by the contributors to it, he must be acquitted of responsibility for the delay. It will, it is hoped, afford some satisfaction to our Members to know that with the exception of these Papers the whole of the matter is now in type, and that the volume may now be speedily published.

The Council must not leave this question without mentioning that Dr. Richard Garnett, of the British Museum, has kindly acceded to the wish expressed by the London Meeting, and has contributed to the forthcoming volume an account of our first President, Mr. J. Winter Jones. They will propose a special vote of thanks to Dr. Garnett for his able and interesting Paper.

Transactions: Sale of Stock.—As our Members are probably aware, the stock of the Transactions held by Mr. B. F. Stevens was disposed of by auction in the summer. Mr. Stevens first offered it to the Association, but the Council felt that as we are not a trading society, and cannot afford to sink a large sum of money in a stock which we could only hope to dispose of very slowly, it was undesirable for them to accept the offer. The Treasurer and Hon. Secretary however gave a commission up to a certain amount, and the latter officer attended the sale. It may be hoped that the disposal of the stock through the natural channels of trade may have the effect of enlarging the interest felt in our work, and of increasing the sale of any future volume.

"*Monthly Notes.*"—Since the begining of the year the Council have also undertaken the publication of the "Monthly Notes" at the expense of the Association. The Council felt themselves bound by the Cambridge resolution that the Annual and Monthly publications were not at present to be merged in one publication. But it must be obvious that besides the expense necessarily involved, the literary and other labour imposed upon the editor by two distinct series of publications is a very serious consideration. Under these circumstances

the Council deem it a matter of the utmost moment, that the annual Meeting should consider the desirability, or otherwise, of continuing the annual Volumes.

Free Library Returns.—In March last Bodley's Librarian, Mr. E. B. Nicholson, suggested to the Council that they should ask Sir John Lubbock to move on their behalf for a Public Library Return. The Council at once took steps to ascertain the wishes and views not only of our own provincial Members, but also of others, who are in charge of the Public Libraries. Acting upon the replies received to their communication, they resolved that in view of the approaching Meeting at Liverpool, and of the opportunity the librarians and managers of Free Public Libraries would thus have of considering the whole question, the Council were of opinion that the matter should be laid before the Association at Liverpool. This resolution was communicated to Sir John Lubbock, who promised to delay moving accordingly.

Proposed Visit to America.—The invitation tendered to the Association by Mr. R. R. Bowker—the late Editor of the "Library Journal"—at our Cambridge Meeting, to visit America next year, will, no doubt, still be in the memory of our Members. Mr. Bowker has not allowed this subject to drop since his return to America, but has been in correspondence with our Secretary on the subject. At the Buffalo Meeting of the American Library Association (on the 14th of August and following days), the Conference, Mr. Bowker writes, extended to the English Association a welcome for 1884, and left the time and place of the next Meeting to be fixed by the executive Committee, in order that our convenience might be consulted. It is, no doubt, a serious matter to propose, but the Council may safely say that English Librarians would enjoy nothing more than a visit to their American colleagues if it could possibly be arranged.

Liverpool Meeting.—The Council have the pleasant duty of expressing their appreciation of the efforts and exertions which have been made by the Officers and Members of the Local Committee at Liverpool. Thanks to their energy and liberality, a most excellent programme has been planned for our gathering, and the Conncil have no doubt that the Members of the Association will long continue to look back with pleasure to their visit.

The Council cannot conclude their Report without placing on record the deep sense they entertain of the valuable services rendered by Mr. E. C. Thomas, the Secretary to the Association, whose labours both officially and as Editor of the "Monthly Notes," have been specially onerous during the past year.

They also wish to express their warm thanks to Mr. R. Harrison, who has held the responsible office of Treasurer from the foundation of the Association.

STATEMENT OF THE PECUNIARY AFFAIRS OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, from August 9th, 1882, to August 31st, 1883.

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward..... £87 8 0			
Do. in P.O. Savings Bank ... 63 2 7			
	150	10	7
Five Life Subscriptions	26	5	0
Annual Subscriptions:—			
1879-80, 3 at 10s. 6d. £1 11 6			
„ „ 1 at 10s..... 0 10 0			
1880-81, 13 at 10s. 6d. 6 16 6			
„ „ 1 at 10s..... 0 10 0			
1881-82, 93 at 10s. 6d. 48 26 6			
„ „ 1 at 10s..... 0 10 0			
1882-83, 199 at 10s. 6d. 104 9 6			
„ „ 1 at 10s..... 0 10 0			
Hon. Society of Gray's Inn 1 1 0			
1883-84, 5 at 10s. 6d. 2 12 6			
23 Associates at Cambridge at 5s. 5 15 0			
	173	2	6
Interest on Deposit	1	10	3
Subscriptions to Monthly Notes ... £4 8 0			
Proceedings of Annual Meetings... 2 2 0			
	6	10	0
	£357	18	4

Payments.

	£.	s.	d.
Trübner & Co.	34	13	2
Whittingham & Co.	8	8	0
J. Davy & Sons	19	1	10
Reporter at Cambridge.....	4	4	0
Purchase of Transactions	4	9	0
Office Furniture	6	0	0
Stationery, Postage and Incidental Expenses...	21	0	8
	£97	16	8
Balance at Bankers..... £169 3 10			
Do. in P.O. Savings Bank 90 17 10			
	260	1	8
	£357	18	4

(Signed) ROBERT HARRISON, *Treasurer.*

Examined and compared with the Books and Vouchers, and found to be correct,

(Signed) { GEO. R. HUMPHERY, J. WHITTALL, } *Auditors.*

Assets.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Balance at Bankers	£169	3	10			
Do. at P.O. Savings Bank ...	90	17	10			
				260	1	8
Subscriptions in arrear:						
4 years from 1 Member	2	2	0			
3 do. 1 do.	1	11	6			
2 do. 8 do.	8	8	0			
1 do. 88 do.	46	4	0			
1 do. 16 do., recently elected	8	8	0			
				66	13	6
Credit by Messrs. J. Davy & Sons for "Notes" sold	3	6	0			
Stock in hand of "Notes," Transactions, &c.	16	0	0			
				19	6	0
				£346	1	2

Liabilities.

	£.	s.	d.
Estimated Cost of the Double Volume of Proceedings at Gray's Inn and at Cambridge ...	116	0	0
Do. of Printing, Stationery, &c., for Meeting at Liverpool	10	0	0
Do. of Printing and Correcting Monthly Notes for 1883	18	0	0
Bills unpaid	52	1	10
Five Subscriptions, 1883-84	2	12	6
Provision for Arrears not recoverable	10	10	0
	209	4	4
Balance	136	16	10
	£346	1	2

(Signed) ROBERT HARRISON, *Treasurer.*

(Signed) { GEO. R. HUMPHERY, J. WHITTALL, } *Auditors.*

LIBRARY NOTES.

BATH.—Mr. Eizak Pitman has issued the following circular dated the 1st of August, 1883 (Institution of the Parcels Post), and addressed "To the Librarianz ov the Free Librariz in Great Britian and Ireland."

FIRST STAGE OF THE SPELLING REFORM.

To the Librarianz ov the Free Librariz in Great Britain and Ireland.

Two or three yearz ago Bath achieved some notoriety in connection with the Free Library movement by refuzing to accept a Library ov 9,000 volumez that had been workt for six yearz az a Subscription Library. This valuable collection ov Books, together with commodious and centrally-situated, freehold premisez, adapted for a Library ov 100,000 volumez, waz offered az a gift to the City on the condition that the inhabitants would pay a ½d. Rate to support it. A Poll ov the burgessez was taken, and the offer waz refuzed by a vote ov two to one.

Ov the Books that constituted the Bath Public Library, 2,000 had been prezented by myself, and 500 came from the library ov the late Mr. Francis Barham. On the dissolution ov the Subscription Library some ov the books wer returned to their donorz, and the rest wer sold to pay the liabilitiz ov the Library. Az the literary executor of Barham, hiz 500 volumez came into my pozession, together with my own 2,000, and I bought about 500 volumez at the sale. I hav since increased the collection to 6,500 volumez, and now dezire to prezént them to the Free Librariz ov Great Britain and Ireland, at the rate ov 50 volumez to each.

Enclozed iz a catalogue ov the principal Books, numbering about 2,700 volumez. The remainder, ov a miscellaneous character, it is not necessary to catalogue.

I shal feel obliged if you wil select 50 volumez, and mark them with *red ink*. Az it iz probable that several Librarianz wil select the same Books, pleaze to mark a second 50 with *black ink*, and a third 50 with a *pencil*. From these I will send 25, and ad to them 25 miscellaneous volumez. If you select one or more sets ov books that consist ov more than 50 volumez, they wil be sent.

A few Librariz have alredy been supplied. To Birmingham, which dezervd the most consideration its first Library having been destroyed by fire, about 500 volumez hav been sent, in sets ov periodicalz; and several Young Men'z Librariz hav received 50 volumez each.

The Spelling Reform iz now so far establisht that I think I can with propriety ask you to accept a few volumez ov the *Phonetic Journal* from 1873 to the present time, for your Reference Library—the previous 31 volumez ar out ov print—also a small volume entitled "A Plea for Spelling Reform," and "A Memorial of F. Barham," printed phonetically, for your Lending Library. The Free Librariz ov the large towns hav alredi received sets ov the *Phonetic Journal*.

I also wish to send a dozen numberz ov the *Phonetic Journal*, and a dozen copiez ov the above "Plea," for prezentation to the memberz ov the Library Committee, and to any frendz who may inquire az to the nature and objects ov the Spelling Reform. To large townz I would send two or three dozen ov the "Plea" if required. They wer printed at the expens ov Mr Coltman, ov Newcastle-on-Tyne, for sale at a nominal price, or for gratis distribution. I wil also ad a dozen or two ov second-hand School Books, etc., consisting ov Grammarz, Historiz, Geographiz, Maps, Hymn Books, and miscellaneous works, for prezentation to boyz and girlz who frequént your Library, and hav but few books ov their own.

I shal be glad to receive your reply in ten dayz,

EIZAK PITMAN.

CHELTENHAM.—At a public meeting, of a stormy character, held in Cheltenham on the 16th of July, a resolution was carried in favour of adopting the Libraries Acts. A poll was taken on the 18th, when the ratepayers decided to adopt the Acts.

DUNFERMLINE.—The library presented to his native town by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, now of New York and Pittsburg, was, on Wednesday, the 29th of August, opened by the Earl of Roseberry, who afterwards addressed a crowded meeting in the public hall. About £8,000 have been spent in the erection and furnishing of the building. This is situated in the centre of the town, having two street frontages, and is in the domestic Tudor style. Over the doorway is a carved scroll with the inscription, "Carnegie Free Library," beneath a rising sun, with an inscription, which was suggested by Mr. Carnegie himself, "Let there be Light." The library itself is 57 ft. by 25 ft., besides which there are a recreation room of 26 ft. by 25 ft., a reading room 34 ft. by 25 ft., and a ladies' reading room, 22 ft. by 18 ft. The library already has 11,926 books. On the laying of the foundation stone by his mother about two years ago, Mr. Carnegie, addressing the working men, reminded them that he had been himself a working man in Dunfermline, and told them that "they might dine upon homely fare, but that when they entered the portals of a library they had a banquet worthy of the gods." The Libraries Acts were adopted at Dunfermline in 1880.

GLASGOW.—We are informed by Mr Barrett that the Mitchell Library has now completed the second million in the number of volumes issued to readers, and advantage may be taken of this circumstance to draw attention to the very remarkable degree in which Mr. Michell's benefaction has been appreciated and made use of by all classes of the citizens—artizans, clerks, students and professional men. The first book was issued at ten o'clock on the morning of 5th of Nov., 1877; the first million issues were completed 14th January, 1881, being 982 working days from the opening; the second million issues were completed at 6.45 P.M. on Saturday last, 1st September, 1883, and occupied 808 working days. It is believed thatthere is no previous instance on record of the issue of two million volumes within so short a period of the opening of a public library. It should be stated, too, that in addition to this large number of volumes asked for at the counter there has been a very great use made of the current periodicals, which, to the number of more than 200 lie freely upon the tables. The following is a statement of the number of volumes issued in each of the classes in which the library is arranged, with relative proportion of the whole issue:—

		Per cent.
Theology and Philosophy	184,681	(9·23)
History, Biography, &c.	435,326	(21·77)
Law, Politics, and Commerce	54,693	(2·73)
Arts and Sciences	402,485	(20·12)
Poetry and the Drama	147,115	(7·36)
Language	54,971	(2·75)
Prose Fiction	154,605	(7·73)
Miscellaneous Literature	566,123	(28·31)
Total	2,000,000	(100·00)

The smallness of the proportion of fiction is very noticeable. Of the whole issue, no more than 10,481 volumes have been issued to

ladies, or only 5 per cent. This small attendance of ladies is regretted, but is probably due to the absence of separate accomodation of a suitable character.

LONDON : BATTERSEA.—The movement in favour of the establishment of a free library continues to make rapid progress. The Committee formed to further the work is an influential and a representative one, and they have just issued and distributed among the ratepayers a report dealing with the arguments for and against free libraries; and pointing out the favourable experience of places which have adopted the Acts. This report will be discussed at a series of meetings, after which the parochial authorities will be requested to convene the necessary legal meeting of the ratepayers. Stress is laid on the fact that the high rateable value of Battersea will make a halfpenny rate more than sufficient to cover the necessary outlay.

LONDON : BRITISH MUSEUM.—The electric lighting of the reading room will continue up till eight o'clock every evening until the end of April next. The method of lighting is the same as that adopted in former years, but a re-adjustment of the lamps has increased the efficacy of the illumination.

LONDON : ISLINGTON.—Some little time ago the Marquis of Northampton offered the interesting old structure known as Canonbury Tower to the Islington Vestry, on condition that it should be used as a Free Library and Reading Room for the parishioners. The building is all that remains of the old Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, and is the oldest building in the North of London. There is a tradition that Goldsmith wrote here his "Vicar of Wakefield." We understand that, partly on the plea that the building is unsuitable for the purpose, the Vestry have declined the offer.

MANCHESTER.—Mr. Henry Cooke, one of the surviving trustees of the Anti-Corn Law League, has presented to the Free Public Library several books of cuttings, hand-bills and placards refering to that historic association, as well as the books which formed the library of reference of the league. Considerable donations have also been received from Mr. H. M. Ormerod, and the Rev. Professor J. E. B. Mayor of Cambridge.

NEWARK.—The Free Library given by Mr. William Gilstrap was opened with much ceremony on July 26th. Among those present were Mr. J. P. Briscoe and Mr. R. F. Sketchley. We hope to give some account of the building in our next number. Mr. Killingley has been appointed librarian.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—The City Council have decided by a large majority to throw open the reading room of the Free Library on Sundays in the afternoon and evening.

OLDHAM.—The Fine Art and Industrial Exhibition which is being held in connexion with the new Library, Museum and Art Gallery buildings at Oldham, was opened on the 1st of August by Sir John Lubbock, M.P.

The August number of the *Polybiblion* contains a bibliography of works relating to Madagascar (pp. 159-168).

Mr. J. H. Round contributes to the *Athenæum* (July 28) an interesting account of the Harsnett Library, which is at present deposited in Colchester Castle. The Noviomagians (of whom our Members Mr. Bullen and Mr. Henry Stevens are leading spirits), on their recent visit to the Castle examined the library, and met with some interesting "finds" which are fully described by Mr. Round.

Our readers will have noticed with some interest the announcement that with its October number *Notes and Queries* will begin the issue of a quarterly index to the articles contained in current periodicals. Even then we shall be behind our American cousins, who have contrived to issue one monthly since the beginning of the year in connexion with the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

We have received from Mr. Sutton his "Manchester Bibliography, for 1882," reprinted from the *Manchester Quarterly* for July, 1883. The total number of Manchester publications was 441, as compared with 365 in the previous year. The increase appears to have been chiefly in works on Politics, Commerce, and Social Questions, in Periodicals, and in 'Music.' The list is compiled with the carefulness and accuracy we are accustomed to expect from Mr. Sutton.

Mr. J. P. Edmond of Aberdeen, one of our Life Members, has issued the prospectus of a work on "The Aberdeen Printers: Edward Raban to James Nichol, 1620-1736." The book will be issued in parts and will be limited to 275 copies.

We have also received from Mr. Edmund Goldsmid, one of our Members, the Prospectus of the "Bibliotheca Curiosa: A Collection of Curious and Out-of-the-Way Books," which are to be issued to subscribers in a limited number of impressions. Many of the proposed publications are very interesting, but we must confess to a little surprise at seeing Xavier de Maistre's books, familiar to us from childhood, included in a list of "out-of-the-way" books, and spoken of as "all but unknown in this country."

The April number of the *Harvard University Bulletin*, besides the usual "List of Accessions to the Library," continues the "Classified Index to Maps in Peterman's Mittheilungen," and a further instalment of "A Bibliography of Ptolemy's Geography."

We observe that the American Library Association have passed a resolution condemning the present law imposing a heavy duty on imported books as "anomalous, unnecessary and unjust."

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Inverness. Catalogue of the Public Library, Inverness. Compiled by John Whyte, Librarian. Inverness, 1883. 8vo, pp. xii. 180, cloth back. Price One Shilling.

An Alphabetical Index Catalogue of a library of about 5,400 volumes. A selection of the contents of magazines and collectaneous works is also supplied. The class letter and number are printed in the margin. The catalogue is dedicated to Mr. Joseph Mitchell "Whose munificent liberality has mainly contributed to the institution and equipment of the library." The volume is very neatly printed and strongly put together.

Runcorn. First Annual Report of the Committee of the Runcorn Free Public Library. 1882-3. Runcorn, 1883. 8vo, pp. 10.

The Acts were adopted at Runcorn in December, 1881, and the library opened in the Improvement Commissioners' Board Rooms, on the 6th of July, 1882. The library was formally opened by our President, Sir James Picton, and the opening was made the occasion of a general holiday. The issues during the year were 16,259, and the number of borrowers 824, figures which "show conclusively the success which has attended the Free Library." The stock of books is 1429, besides 159 books almost forming the nucleus of a reference department. The rate produced £171 8s. 3d., and the year closed with a balance of £60 10s. 5d. We observe that four lectures were delivered during the winter—a commendable following of the example set at Liverpool.

Borough of Stafford. The First Annual Report of the Free Public Library and Newsroom, for the year ending June 30, 1883. Stafford, 1883. 8vo. pp. 8.

This is also a first report, and records the working of the library, which was opened on the 24th July, 1882, for eleven months. The issues were 29,668, of which 285 volumes were read in the reference library. The stock now amounts to 4,742, of which 3.899 are in the lending, and 843 in the reference department. The number of borrowers' tickets issued was 1,555. There is no financial information—except that £16 7s. 3d. was received for fines.

Borough of West Bromwich. Ninth Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, presented to the Town Council, 1883. West Bromwich, 8vo, pp. 24.

The stock in the Lending Department has increased to 10,350 volumes. The issues have been 57,146 volumes in the lending department, a decrease chiefly in lighter literature of 9,856, and in the Reference Department of 824 volumes. £52. 17s. 11d. was received from fines and the rate produced £496. 3s. 10d. The Committee close the year with a balance of £572. due to them from the Council. Three branches have been opened during the year and have been as well attended as the capacity of the premises would admit. The Committee refer with regret to the loss by death of Mr. C. H. Bayley, who was one of our members, and who had been Hon. Secretary since the establishment of the library.

Worcester Public Library and Hastings Museum. First Report of the Library Committee, 1879-1883. Worcester. 8vo, pp. 31.

The Acts were adopted at Worcester on the 23rd April, 1879. The old city library was acquired for less than £240, and the Natural History Society presented their museum and library. The library and museum were formally opened on the 16th March, 1881, by the American Minister (Mr. Lowell). In the two years the institution has been open, 164,659 volumes have been issued, while it is computed that over 300,000 visits have been made to the news room, and over 100,000 to the museum. The issues in the two years respectively were—in the Lending Department, 1881-2, 86,465; 1882-3, 68,783; and in the Reference

Department, 3,774 and 2,374 respectively. The number of volumes now in stock in the two departments is—Lending, 8,221, and Reference, 7,996. The rate produces £600 per annum. There is a Worcestershire collection, and a course of lectures has been delivered in connection with the library which were very successful. As an appendix there is added the report of the subscribers' committee of the fund for providing a library building, fittings and books.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Aberdeen Philosophical Society. The Success of Free Public Libraries in Industrial Towns, and the necessity for a Free Public Library in Aberdeen: a Paper read before the Aberdeen Philosophical Society, on 20th March, 1883, by John Duguid Milne, Esq. 8vo, pp. 18.

This address, the delivery of which we have already noticed (see p. 61), is a very able and interesting statement of the reasons for the adoption of the Free Libraries Acts. Mr. Milne handles his statistics with great skill and force, so as to show that the advantages of the Acts have been mainly enjoyed by the industrial classes, and that they are chiefly interested in the adoption of them. He contrasts the working of the Acts with that of Mechanics' Institutions; and finally, dealing with Aberdeen as "one of the great towns that have stood by their Mechanics' Institutions," points out that the time has come when a Free Library is a necessity for the town, and reminds the inhabitants that the directors of the Institution are ready to hand over to the Library their buildings and their whole stock of books as the nucleus of the new Institution. We can conceive no greater stimulus to the movement than the circulation of this excellent and practical address.

Birmingham Free Library. Report of Sub-Committee on Library Staff. 8vo, pp. 24.

This report includes a comprehensive and minute list of work allotted to the Chief Librarian of the Birmingham Free Library and his assistant. It embraces almost all points of a librarian's duty, from the highest to the most trivial; the chief omission, apparently, being the reception of visitors by the librarian, and personal interviews with applicants for information and with "bores." It might, indeed, be worth while to print an edition of the report for the use of the latter class; it would show that "learned leisure" does not lurk within the official enclosures of a large popular library. The number of persons employed, including cleaners, is fifty-two, which the Committee think "not in excess of the requirements of the Institution." For the higher branches of work the engagement of another officer or two is recommended. A very reasonable recommendation indeed, it will be thought, when the amount of work and the length of the hours are considered. The libraries are open thirteen hours daily (9 a.m. to 10 p.m.), while the attendants have the very moderate privilege of leaving off at 1.30 on one day and at 7 p.m. on another day of the week. Administrators of large libraries, whether committeemen or librarians, would no doubt find many instructive and suggestive things in this carefully-prepared document.

Outlines of German Literature. By Joseph Gostwick and Robert Harrison. Second edition, revised and enlarged. London: Williams & Norgate, 1883. 8vo. pp. xii. 642.

The work of our excellent treasurer and of Mr. Gostwick is undoubtedly the best account of German literature in English. Originally published in 1873, it now appears in a second edition with additional Chapters on "The Decennium, 1873-83." There is a very useful index of names and special attention is drawn to a new index of "Subjects and titles of books," which is likely to be very useful.

Library Aids: by Samuel S. Green, Librarian of the Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass. Revised and enlarged edition. New York: F. Leypoldt, 1883. sm. 8vo. pp. iv. 130+32+34, paper cover.

An enlarged reprint of the excellent paper read by Mr. Green at Baltimore, and first printed in the Library Journal. It was then printed for distribution by the Bureau of Education. The publisher has added the library references from Poole's Index, a chapter on "Books and Articles on Reading," by Mr. W. E. Foster (from his "Libraries and Readers"), the bibliography references from the American catalogue and the library authorities from the art. "Libraries" in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. The publisher hopes that it may form the foundation of a "Library Annual."

The Library Manual: A Guide to the Formation of a Library and the Valuation of rare and standard Books. By J. Herbert Slater, of the Middle Temple. London, n. d. 8vo. pp. vii. 120. Price 2s. 6d.

A pretentious but utterly feeble and mistaken book.

CORRESPONDENCE.

VILLAGE SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

I send you a short extract from a paper in *The School Guardian* on the Education Returns for 1882: I think it speaks well for the managers and other persons in whose care the schools are. "We are pleased to find that our friends have been so earnest in their efforts to promote the improvement of the children under their care as to make increased exertions to establish School Libraries for their benefit. There are now 1954 Church Schools, or groups of Church Schools, which have libraries; or 131 more than there were the previous year. When it is remembered how considerable an outlay libraries involve, and that a still greater demand is made upon the time and patience of those who have charge of them, we must acknowledge that those who have thus laboured for the good of their juvenile parishioners are deserving of all honour. We find that rather more than 1 in every 6 Church Schools has a library; rather more than 1 in every 10 British and Undenominational or Board Schools; 1 in every 10½ Roman Catholic Schools; and rather more than 1 in every 17 Wesleyan Schools." C. W. HOLGATE.

QUERY.

The following entry occurs in Poole's Index:—"Fiction, Welsh. Mo. R. 160: 431. 163. 64." Mo. R. = Modern Review, according to explanation at the beginning. After careful search, however, I am unable to find the article. Can some librarian help me?—V. O. X.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—Minutes of the Annual Meeting at Liverpool—October Monthly Meeting—Obituary: J. F. Nicholls—The Raising of the Library Rate—Library Catalogues and Reports—Library Notes—Correspondence.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held on Friday, November 2nd, at 8 P.M., at the London Institution, when Papers will be read on "Richard Porson as a Librarian," by Mr. E. M. BORRAJO; and on the "Popular Libraries of Paris," by the Hon. Secretary.

The Council have determined, in pursuance of the resolution carried at Liverpool, to enlarge the MONTHLY NOTES with the new year. They will be issued under the title of "The Library Chronicle: a Journal of Librarianship and Bibliography. Published by the Library Association of the United Kingdom."

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING AT LIVERPOOL.

THE Sixth Annual Meeting of the Association was held at Liverpool in the Lecture Theatre of the Free Public Library, William Brown Street, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th of September, under the presidency of SIR JAMES PICTON, Chairman of the Free Library Committee. About 120 members attended besides associates.

The first day's proceedings were opened at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, when SIR JAMES PICTON took the chair, and called upon the Honorary Secretary to announce the names of those gentlemen who being engaged in library administration had joined the Association since the last monthly meeting,* or not being librarians were now proposed by the Council for immediate election.

* The names already announced in Monthly Notes, p. 102, are not repeated here.

The following gentlemen were then declared members of the Association:—Mr. T. J. Agar, 9, Bucklersbury, E.C.; Mr. J. E. Bailey, Stretford, Manchester; Mr. Ambrose Berry, Librarian, Free Public Library, Oldham; Mr. F. Poingdestre Carrel, Rozel, Sydenham; Mr. James Collister,* Assistant-Librarian, Free Public Library, Liverpool; Mr. C. F. Courtney, Free Library, Derby; Miss Hannah Eteson, Librarian, Free Library, Blackpool; Mr. Halley, Free Library, Macclesfield; Mr. E. B. H. Horace, Clerk of the School Board, Liverpool; Mr. W. Henman, 38, Bennett's Hill, Birmingham; Mr. D. F. Howorth, Ashton-under-Lyne; Mr. Alex. Ireland, Inglewood, Bowdon; Mr. Richard Lea, Vice-Chairman, Free Library, Wigan; Mr. I. F. Millington, Liverpool; Mr. T. W. Newman, Atkinson Free Library, Southport; Mr. J. O. Nicholson, Upton Mount, Macclesfield; Mr. R. Nicholson, Chairman, Free Library, Southport; Mr. J. J. Ogle, Assistant-librarian, Free Reference Library, Nottingham; the Mayor of Wigan (Alderman Henry Park); Mr. J. E. L. Pickering, Librarian, Inner Temple Library, London, E.C.; Mr. F. S. Powell, Horton Old Hall, Bradford; and Mr. Jno. Southward, 39, Hatherley Street, Liverpool.

The following gentlemen were enrolled as Associates for the Liverpool meeting:—Rev. J. Bell-Cox, St. Margaret's, Prince's Road, Liverpool; Rev. Edward Hassan, 2, Olive Mount, Wavertree; Prof. A. R. Forsyth, University College, Liverpool; Prof. J. Campbell Brown, University College, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Snape, 10, Kinglake Street, Liverpool; Mr. J. F. Rogers, 15, Victoria Street, Liverpool; Mr. William Blood, Chamber of Commerce, Liverpool; Mr. Frederick Broadbridge, 15, Lord Street, Liverpool; Dr. F. J. Bailey, 51, Grove Street, Liverpool; Dr. Rushton Parker, 61, Rodney Street, Liverpool; Mr. Charles F. Finney, 12, St. George's Crescent, Liverpool; Mr. T. E. Stephens, Lyndhurst, New Brighton; Mr. R. P. Y. Simpson, 2, Mount Road, Liscard, Birkenhead; Mr. Charles W. Jones, Field House, Wavertree; Mr. William Brown, Chairman, Free Library, Chester; Mr. F. F. Brown, Free Library, Chester; Alderman James Hibbert, Preston; Prof. W. A. Herdman, D.Sc.; Mr. J. Fazakerley; Mr. A. J. Johnson; Capt. H. Waterhouse; Mr. William Relton; Mr. John Lovell, *Mercury* Office, Liverpool.

The President having delivered his Opening Address, it was agreed to take the Report of the Council on the work of the year and the Treasurer's Report as read. The adoption of the former was moved and seconded by Mr. BRADSHAW and Mr. WALFORD.

After a discussion, in which Messrs. MULLINS, BULLEN, HARRISON and OVERALL, took part, Mr. THOMAS moved that the further consideration of the Report should be adjourned until Wednesday morning. This was seconded by Mr. OVERALL, and carried.

Mr. WALFORD moved and Mr. CHANCELLOR CHRISTIE seconded the adoption of the Treasurer's Report.

After some remarks by Messrs. MULLINS, BULLEN, WALFORD, BONE, HARRISON, CONYBEARE, WRIGHT and THOMAS, the motion was carried.

* Accidentally omitted at p. 102.

Mr. STEVENS read his Paper on "The Rise and Growth of Public Libraries in America." SIR JAMES PICTON having expressed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. STEVENS for his Paper, a discussion followed, in which Messrs. HARRISON, STEVENS and WALFORD took part.

Mr. COWELL then read his Paper on "The Origin and History of some Liverpool Libraries."

After the adjournment, Dr. Garnett, in the absence of the author, read PROFESSOR R. K. DOUGLAS'S Paper on "Chinese Libraries."

Mr. STEVENS then read his Paper, entitled "Founders of Libraries: James Lenox." After some remarks by Mr. WALFORD, the meeting adjourned, in order to enable members to avail themselves of the invitation of the Earl of Derby to visit Knowsley. The party on reaching Knowsley, after a pleasant drive, were received by Lord Lionel Cecil, and conducted through the library by Mr. Latter, the librarian, who also pointed out the works of art adorning the walls. A visit was then paid to the stables.

In the evening the Library, Museum and Arts Committee of the Corporation gave a soirée and reception at the Walker Art Gallery.

SECOND DAY.

The first business taken was the adjourned discussion on the Report. Mr. THOMAS having intimated that it would be convenient to take the Report paragraph by paragraph, moved "That the illustrations to the cataloguing rules be considered." This was seconded by Mr. BARRETT, and carried.

Mr. THOMAS proposed "That Messrs. ARCHER, HEATH and MADELEY be added to the committee appointed to consider the question of holding an examination of library assistants, and that the committee should report specially on Friday morning," which was agreed to.

Mr. THOMAS moved, "That a committee be appointed to reconsider the constitution and to report thereon to the present meeting, and that the committee should consist of the Honorary Secretary, the Treasurer, and Mr. TEDDER." The motion was carried.

Mr. THOMAS then moved, "That the paragraphs headed 'Transactions' and 'Monthly Notes' be adopted."

Mr. OVERALL moved, "That for the future the two publications of the society, viz., the 'Annual Report' and 'Monthly Notes' be combined, and that a yearly volume be issued in four quarterly parts. The papers, &c., read at the Annual Meeting to be printed in large type with separate pagination; the monthly proceedings, notices, &c., in a smaller type, and separate pagination. A title-page and general index to be issued with the fourth part.

"That Papers be printed in the order received by the Honorary Secretary.

"That it be referred to the Council to carry into effect, and if found necessary to pay for the editing of the volume."

Mr. WALFORD seconded the motion.

After some remarks by Mr. YATES, the following amendment was

moved by Mr. BARRETT, "That the Transactions of the Annual Meeting be printed together with the 'Monthly Notes.'"

A long discussion followed, in which Messrs. TEDDER, HARRISON, YATES, CONYBEARE, HUDSON, STEVENS, BRADSHAW, FROST, LAW, WRIGHT, GARNETT, BULLEN, OGLE, MULLINS, THOMAS, COWELL, BONE, MADELEY, HUMPHERY and SIR JAMES PICTON, took part. Mr. THOMAS having seconded Mr. BARRETT'S amendment, it was put to the meeting, and carried by 39 against 36.

Mr. BRADSHAW moved, "1. That whatever size be adopted the Notes of the Monthly Meetings and the Transactions of the Annual Meeting be printed in the same size.

"2. That the 'Monthly Notes' and the 'Annual Transactions' be printed on separate sheets, under one cover, and a title be provided for each at the close of each yearly volume.

"3. That such Papers of the preceding annual meeting as the Honorary Secretary can procure be issued at least once in three months."

Mr. OVERALL having seconded the motion, it was carried unanimously.

Mr. THOMAS moved the adjournment of the discussion on the Report, which was agreed to.

Mr. CHANCELLOR CHRISTIE then read his Paper on "Old Church and School Libraries in Lancashire." Dr. GARNETT, Messrs. HARRISON, AXON, WALFORD, YATES, LOMAX, BULLEN, STEVENS and SIR JAMES PICTON, took part in the discussion which followed.

After the adjournment, in the absence of SIR JAMES PICTON, the chair was taken by Mr. BRADSHAW, and Mr. LOVELL read his Paper on "The Functions and Operations of the Free Library System," which was followed by some observations from Messrs. MULLINS, YATES and BRADSHAW. Mr. HENMAN then read his Paper on "Free Library Buildings, their Arrangement and Fittings." A lengthy discussion followed, in which Messrs. FORMBY, MADELEY, MULLINS, HEATH, WALFORD, BRISCOE, CHRISTIE and STEWART, took part.

The meeting then adjourned for an excursion upon the River Mersey in a steamer placed at the disposal of the Association by the Dock Board. Visits were paid to the training ship "Indefatigable" and the Inman steamer, "City of Chester." In the evening the members of the Association were entertained at dinner, by the Local Executive Committee, at the Adelphi Hotel, under the presidency of SIR JAMES PICTON.

THIRD DAY.

The adjourned discussion upon the Report was continued. Mr. Thomas upon the paragraph headed "Free Libraries Bill," moved "That the Council be instructed to obtain, if possible, a clause in the new Free Libraries Bill to secure an annual return on Free Libraries, and to draw up a schedule of questions on the subject." The motion was seconded by Mr. HARRISON, and carried. Mr. THOMAS then moved the adjournment of the discussion, which was agreed to.

Mr. SMITH read his Paper on "Library Pests." A long discussion ensued, in which Messrs. HARRISON, COCKERELL, STEVENS, COWELL, WAKEFIELD, Sir JAMES PICTON, WRIGHT, CHRISTIE, BULLEN, GARNETT, BARRETT, MADELEY, FROWDE, HOBBES, OVERALL, VIRGO and BRISCOE took part.

Mr. CREDLAND read his Paper on "Starved Free Libraries," and Mr. FORMBY read his Paper on "A proposed System of Differential Rating for Free Libraries." Messrs. COCKERELL, TONKS, DROMGOOLE, AXON, Sir JAMES PICTON and HENMAN, took part in the discussion which followed.

After the adjournment, Mr. BRADSHAW presided in the absence of Sir JAMES PICTON. Mr. SOUTHWARD read his Paper on "Technical Literature and Free Libraries." After some observations from Alderman SAMUELSON and Mr. OGLE, Mr. THOMAS moved "That the following gentlemen be added to the Committee on the Examination of Library Assistants: Messrs. LAW, PLANT, SMITH and VIRGO." The motion was carried.

Mr. WALFORD then read his Paper on "Early Laws and Regulations concerning Books." After some remarks from Messrs. BULLEN, OVERALL, STEVENS and SOUTHWARD, Mr. WALFORD replied, and the meeting adjourned.

In the afternoon a party of members visited Haigh Hall, and the treasures of its library were shown by the Earl of CRAWFORD and BALCARRES. Other parties visited Messrs. COPE's Tobacco Factory, the "Alaska," or the Mersey Tunnel Works. In the evening a dinner was given at the Town Hall by the Mayor, to which a number of members were invited.

FOURTH DAY.

Mr. THOMAS, resuming the adjourned discussion on the Report, moved, with reference to the proposed visit to America, "That the Library Association of the United Kingdom, assembled in Annual Meeting at Liverpool, congratulates the American Library Association on the success of their recent meeting at Buffalo, and that the American Library Association be informed that a deputation of our members will attend the next Annual Meeting of the American Library Association." Mr. TEDDER seconded the motion, which, after Mr. ARCHER had extended a warm invitation for the Association to visit Dublin next year, was unanimously carried.

With regard to the proposed changes in the constitution, Mr. THOMAS moved "That the number of Vice-Presidents be limited to six." Mr. LANCASTER seconded the motion. After some discussion, Mr. MULLINS moved and Mr. YATES seconded the following amendment, which was carried: "That after this meeting the number of Vice-Presidents be limited to twelve."

Mr. THOMAS then moved "That the number of London Members of Council should be ten, and that the number of Country Members of Council should be ten." Mr. WALFORD having seconded the motion, it was carried unanimously.

Mr. THOMAS moved "That there be an entrance fee of 10s. 6d."

Mr. WALFORD seconded the motion, which, after some discussion, was rejected.

Mr. THOMAS moved and Mr. WALFORD seconded "That after the next annual meeting the life subscription be raised from £5. 5s. to £7. 7s." This was agreed to.

Mr. MULLINS moved "That Libraries and Institutions may receive the Transactions for the annual subscription." Mr. OVERALL seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. WRIGHT moved "That 'Monthly Notes' be sent to Associates." Mr. GRANT seconded the motion, but Mr. COCKERELL having moved as an amendment "That the matter be referred to the Council," the amendment was carried.

Mr. HUMPHERY moved "That the publications be no longer sent to members unless the two shillings for postage be paid; two months' notice to be given of the enforcement of this rule." Mr. MACALISTER seconded the motion. Mr. MADELEY moved as an amendment, "That the voluntary contribution of two shillings for 'Monthly Notes' be discontinued." Mr. WAITE seconded the amendment, which was carried.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers, and Messrs. BAILEY and MACALISTER were appointed Scrutineers. Dr. INGRAM, being the only person nominated, was declared to be duly elected President, and Mr. TONKS was unanimously elected a new Vice-President.

Mr. CONYBEARE drew the attention of the meeting to the work being done by the "Social and Political Education League," by the means of the delivery of lectures, which were of great advantage when associated with Libraries.

Sir JAMES PICTON then, on behalf of the subscribers, presented to Mr. THOMAS a testimonial which had been subscribed for by members of the Association, and which took the form of a case of books. Mr. THOMAS having returned thanks, some remarks were added by Messrs. COWELL, YATES and HARRISON.

It was agreed, in consequence of the pressure of business, that Mr. THOMAS'S Paper, "Q: an Experiment in Bibliology," should be taken as read.

Mr. THOMAS announced that the Committee on Size Notation had made but little progress since the Cambridge meeting. He then moved the following resolution of the Committee on the proposed Examination of Library Assistants: "That Messrs. THOMAS and TEDDER be appointed to draw up a syllabus of examination questions, and a list of text books, and to submit the same as early as possible to this Committee, with a view of eliciting further suggestions. Afterwards that Messrs. THOMAS and TEDDER be asked to formulate a complete scheme." Mr. OVERALL moved that the following rider be added to the motion: "That the examination questions and list of text books upon library management be referred to Messrs. COWELL, MULLINS and SUTTON, to report upon." Mr. VIRGO seconded the amendment. After some discussion, the amendment having been put to the meeting was negatived by a large majority, and the original motion was carried.

Mr. THOMAS then moved the alterations in the Cataloguing Rules proposed by the Committee, which were agreed to. It was also resolved, on the motion of Mr. THOMAS, seconded by Mr. COWELL, "That the proposed illustrations be circulated, and that additional illustrations, and remarks on those now submitted, be invited."

Mr. BARRETT moved "That the Council be requested to draw up for the consideration of the Annual Meeting of 1884 a scheme for the classification of books in a library." Mr. ARCHER having seconded the motion, it was carried unanimously.

Mr. BAILEY moved, Mr. WALFORD seconded, and it was unanimously agreed, "That the hearty congratulations of the Library Association of the United Kingdom be offered to Dr. POOLE upon the completion of his 'Index to Periodical Literature.'"

Mr. ARCHER moved and Mr. HAGGERSTON seconded the motion, "That the Annual Meeting for 1884 be held in Dublin." This was also carried unanimously.

It was agreed upon Mr. THOMAS'S motion, seconded by Mr. WALFORD, "That Mr. AGAR'S name be added to the names of the auditors elected."

Mr. BRADSHAW moved and Mr. CHANCELLOR CHRISTIE seconded a vote of thanks to the Library, Museum and Arts Committee of the Corporation of Liverpool, which was enthusiastically carried by acclamation. SIR JAMES PICTON replied.

Mr. WALFORD moved, and Mr. MULLINS seconded, a vote of thanks to the Mayor. The motion was unanimously agreed to. SIR JAMES PICTON undertook to convey the expression of the Association's thanks to the Mayor.

On the motion of Mr. HARRISON, seconded by Mr. OVERALL, a vote of thanks to the Local Executive Committee was carried with acclamation. Mr. STEWART replied.

A vote of thanks to Lords DERBY and CRAWFORD was moved by Mr. BULLEN, seconded by Mr. HAGGERSTON, and carried unanimously. A similar vote to the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board and the Local Institutions of Liverpool was passed on the motion of Mr. YATES, seconded by Mr. BARRETT.

Mr. BRADSHAW moved and Mr. THOMAS seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. COWELL, which was enthusiastically accorded by the meeting. Mr. COWELL replied.

SIR JAMES PICTON brought the meeting to a close with a few remarks; and Mr. BRADSHAW having asked for one hearty expression of good-will to their President, the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Association broke up amidst loud cheers.

It was announced that the following members were elected to serve on the Council for the ensuing year:—London members: W. R. DOUTHWAITE, H. A. ELIOT, A. J. FROST, R. GARNETT, W. H. OVERALL, R. F. SKETCHLEY, H. STEVENS, H. R. TEDDER, C. WELCH and H. B. WHEATLEY. Country members: W. ARCHER, F. T. BARRETT, J. P. BRISCOE, W. J. HAGGERSTON, Rev. J. C. HUDSON, T. G. LAW, C. MADELEY, C. E. SCARSE, W. H. K. WRIGHT and J. YATES. Treasurer: R. HARRISON. Secretary: E. C. THOMAS.

As soon as the meeting ended, SIR JAMES PICTON conducted the members over the museum. A second party also visited Haigh Hall during the afternoon, and the same excursions as on the previous day were available for those who wished to take part in them.

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The first Monthly Meeting of the Seventh Year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, October 5th, 1883, at 8 p.m., Dr. RICHARD GARNETT in the chair.

The names of the following gentlemen, being engaged in Library administration, were announced as having joined the Association: Mr. W. GILSTRAP, Fornham Park, Bury St. Edmunds; Mr. J. BASS MULLINGER, Librarian, St. John's College, Cambridge; Mr. ALFRED MILNER, Librarian, Subscription Library, Hull.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election at the next Meeting: Mr. T. C. HILTON, proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by the Secretary; Mr. JAMES SAMUELSON, of Birkenhead, proposed by Dr. Garnett, seconded by the Secretary.

The death of Mr. J. F. Nicholls, Chief Librarian, City Free Library, Bristol, was announced.

The resolutions passed at the Liverpool Meeting were formally reported.

There being no other business, the Meeting adjourned.

OBITUARY: JAMES FAWCKNER NICHOLLS.

The citizens of Bristol were suprised lately by the receipt of a telegram from Goodwick, Fishguard, announcing the nearly sudden death of Mr. J. F. Nicholls, F.S.A., the first chief librarian of the City Free Library. Mr. Nicholls had gone to Fishguard to enjoy with his family his summer holiday, and was on the eve of returning to his duties when, on Sunday, September 16th, he was seized with an inflammatory attack which ended fatally on the following Wednesday morning.

He was born at Sidmouth, Devon, May 26th, 1818, and was therefore in his 66th year at his decease. His father was a builder; and he himself, after spending a couple of years at sea, became engaged in business pursuits until the time of his succeeding Mr. George Pryce, F.S.A., as custodian of the Bristol City Library, which was founded as far back as 1613, becoming the nucleus of the present central library and its branches under the Acts.

Mr. Nicholls was a zealous labourer in the field of local archæology, and produced several works illustrative of the history of Bristol and its neighbourhood. "How to see Bristol," is the title of a shilling handbook, and "Pleasant Trips Out of Bristol" is that of a second work; both of which have proved successful. He was joint author with Mr. John Taylor, of the Museum Library, of "Bristol, Past and Present," a well illustrated work, published by Arrowsmith, Bristol, two years ago, which was favourably reviewed by the leading

literary and other journals. Mr. Nicholls wrote the first and third volumes of this work, comprising the civil history, and Mr. Taylor the second volume, which treated of the ecclesiology of the grand old town of which it is the subject. His earliest work, however, was "The Remarkable Life, Adventures and Discoveries of Sebastian Cabot" (1869), who was a Bristol native, or, at least, resided in Bristol.

A sketch of Mr. Nicholls appeared in the *Biograph* of November, 1881, to which we may refer our readers for further details.—T.

THE RAISING OF THE LIBRARY RATE.

THERE can be no doubt that of the various matters discussed at our Liverpool Meeting the proposal to raise the Library rate is that which has most interested the public generally. This is sufficiently indicated by the numerous references to the subject in the daily press. That it should greatly interest our own members was a matter of course. It seems unfortunate, however, that there should be so much difficulty in deciding what was the general result of the discussion upon the subject. Mr. H. R. Tedder, in the *Academy*, held that "the discussion tended to show that at present it would be undesirable to alter the provisions as to the rating." Mr. Axon writes to the *Academy* to complain that this statement is not accurate, and thinks, on the contrary, that "undoubtedly it is considered desirable by the Committees and Managers of many even of the most important towns where Libraries and Galleries exist." He says further, that "the feeling of Manchester, Salford, Birmingham, St. Helen's and Oldham, so far as they were represented at the Meeting, was shown to be in favour of Mr. Credland's suggestion, while the opposition came from the Recorder of Sudbury [Mr. Cockerell of Cambridge] and the representative of Liverpool, where their exceptional rating powers give them a sufficient income."

To this Mr. Tedder replied, in the next number of the *Academy*, (Oct. 6) that "as there was no vote taken upon the question, it would be impossible to prove what was really the feeling among individual members," but "that, although he was not himself present at this particular discussion, he sees no reason to alter his opinion." He goes on to say that "it is quite obvious that the penny rate is frequently insufficient to sustain an adequate Library;" but thinks "an increase of the lawful maximum" as "a matter which is not at all likely to meet with the approval of Parliament." He tells the friends of Libraries, therefore, that they should "resist any proposal to increase the present rating under the Acts. They ought to refuse to accept an alternative between this position and the doing away with the Public Libraries Acts altogether, so as to give power to local authorities to establish their own Libraries without special legislation of any kind." This may be so, but it must be remembered that the "doing away with the Acts" means an unlimited rate. We must confess that we are not quite convinced by the logic which holds the increase of the maximum to 2d. be not at all likely to meet with the approval of Parliament, while it seems to think that Parliament will cheerfully agree to an indefinite increase of the maximum.

Meantime our friend Mr. Formby has had less than justice dealt out to him by the daily press. The *Pall Mall Gazette* of Sept. 17 wrote as follows:—

"The multiplication of Free Libraries is a matter of such vast social importance that it is not surprising if its advocates should allow their zeal to outrun their discretion, and that is undoubtedly the case when they propose, as Mr. Formby did before the Library Association, to raise the general maximum of the rate which may be imposed for the maintenance of Public Libraries above its present limit of a penny in the pound. For what is the argument by which the adoption of any rate at all for that purpose is still in many places successfully resisted? Just this, that once begun, it will not stop at a penny. While so many towns still hesitate to sanction even a penny rate, for fear of the thing going further, the friends of Free Libraries would do well to be careful how they frighten them any further by talking about a sixpenny rate."

To this Mr. Formby replied in a letter which it may also be worth while to reproduce from the *Pall Mall* of 24th Sept.:—

"Is the writer of the paragraph in your Saturday's issue aware that a bill, backed by Mr. C. H. Hopwood, M.P. for Stockport, known as the 'Manchester' bill, proposes a general rate for Free Library purposes of 2d. in the pound? It has now been before Parliament for a considerable time, having been blocked more than once by Mr. Warton, M.P. for Bridport. Is he also aware that at least three Municipalities, one being of first-class importance, have already power under local Acts to levy more than the regulation penny in the pound for the support of their Free Libraries if they think proper to do so? The question of raising the Free Library rate was publicly mooted as far back as 1872, in that not obscure publication, the *Westminster Review*, by Mr. James Hanson of Bradford. He says: 'In all towns and parishes where the rate will not raise £200. a year, we suggest that it should be three-halfpence.' I do not think, therefore, I can be fairly charged with precipitancy in this matter, especially as the penny rate has now been levied for more than a quarter of a century. I entirely repudiate any intention to advocate the universal raising of the rate beyond the penny in the pound. I do advocate a larger rate for the small market towns and boroughs than for the larger communities. It is obvious they require it more. A careful perusal of the full text of my Paper would show that I divide the whole of the incorporated towns into three classes. In the first class, with moneys for Free Library purposes of over £500. per annum, I propose no change whatever. In the second, including all between £200. and £500., I suggest a varying rate not exceeding 2d. in the pound. In all towns with less than £200. per annum I recommend permission to levy a varying rate, not exceeding 6d. in the pound, so as to produce that amount, which would really give that power to the full extent to less than a dozen towns, with or without Free Libraries, out of a total of about 250. As the discussion on my Paper was not really finished, owing to the expiration of the time allowed for the sitting, I had then no opportunity for reply or explanation; hence a good deal of the misapprehension which has arisen respecting it."

EDITOR.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

London: British Museum. Luther Exhibition, 1883, in the Grenville Library. Arranged by G. Bullen, F.S.A., Keeper of the Department of Printed Books... 1883. Price Twopence. 8vo. pp. 42.

We learn from Mr. Bullen's introduction that this Exhibition has its origin in a suggestion made by Dr. Ginsburg, the eminent Hebrew Scholar, to Mr. Bond. Mr. Bond at once cordially adopted it, as did also Mr. Bullen and the other heads of Departments. The collections thus brought together consist of (1) Printed Books and Broadsides; (2) Manuscripts; (3) Portraits; (4) Medals,

and is as might have been expected full of instruction and interest. The whole has been carefully catalogued, and for the better understanding of the exhibition a biographical sketch of the Great Reformer is prefixed to the Catalogue.

Cambridge Public Free Library, Guildhall. Twenty-eighth Annual Report, 1882-83... 8vo. pp. 13.

The additions to the Library were 1388 vols., of which 424 were presented. The number of volumes now in the Library is Reference Department 7,472; Lending Department 17,132; Barnwell Branch 3,685. The issues were 79,578 volumes being an increase of 5,019 over the previous year of the books kept in the Reading Room now numbering 1036 volumes "only two small volumes of the value of four shillings were lost during the year." In the Lending Department "it is a fact worth recording that during a period of twenty-five years not a single volume has been absolutely lost." The amount received from the rate for the year ending August 31st was £690. 9s. 6¾d.

Dublin. Report of the Committee named on 2nd April, 1883, *re* Establishing and Maintaining of General Libraries... Dublin, 1883. 8vo. pp. 25 (523-547).

The Committee was appointed in pursuance of a resolution of the 5th March, 1883, "to report as to the extent to which it would be desirable to avail of the Public Libraries Acts in Dublin, by establishing General Libraries in situations convenient for the people; the committee to consider and report specially as to the adapting of existing buildings to the objects of the Acts; and also as to the cost both of putting such a scheme in operation and of maintaining it in the future." We hope to say something as to this interesting report on a future occasion; meanwhile we may mention that the committee considering the existing advantages for general readers make it unnecessary to maintain Reference and Central Libraries. They recommend that two substantial houses be maintained as Reading Room and Lending Library open throughout the day and evening. The cost of maintenance including repayment of preliminary loan is put at £1000. per annum.

République Française. Préfecture de la Seine. Commission des Bibliothèques. Rapport présenté par M. Edmond Dardenne, Chef de Bureau. Paris, 1883. 4to. pp. 71.

We have already referred in these pages to the circumstances in which this Report has its origin. It is a very valuable and interesting document, containing an account of the various popular Libraries in Paris and in the Department of the Seine, preceded by an account of the Bibliotheque Administrative. The collection of facts is supplemented by a review of the work done by Popular Libraries outside France—in England, Switzerland, Belgium and the United States. As will be seen from an announcement in this number we propose to call further attention to this Report.

The Bristol Free Library, as most of our readers are aware, does not print an Annual Report. The late Mr. Nicholls furnished us with the following figures just before his lamented death. The issues for the last year were—in the Reference Department 84,056, in the Lending Deportment 353,657, an increase upon the previous year of 9,318. The number of volumes in the four Libraries was 51,521. The income derived from the rate is £3,400.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BANBURY.—Mr. Bernhard Samuelson, M.P., the Chairman of the Royal Commission on Technical Education, has offered to present a building to the town of Banbury, costing several thousand pounds, to be used as a Literary Institute.

BELFAST: FREE LIBRARY AND ART GALLERY.—The Belfast Town Council have decided to award the premiums in the competition for designs for the new Free Library and Art Gallery as follows: 1, Mr. Lynn, of Belfast; 2, Messrs. Maxwell and Tuke, of Manchester; 3, Mr. Johnson, of London.

BIRMINGHAM.—At the opening of the Session of the Mason Science College on October 2nd, the Bailiff, Mr. Alderman Richard Chamberlain announced that they had now over 14,000 volumes in the Library. This great increase was chiefly due to the liberality of the Chairman of the Library Committee, who had also prepared a very useful Catalogue of the whole of the vast number of serials in the possession of the College, thus rendering them accessible to the students.

BRISTOL.—We regret to have to record the loss by death of one of our members, Mr. J. F. Nicholls, Chief Librarian of the City Free Library, Bristol. The news came upon us the more unexpectedly as we were in correspondence with Mr. Nicholls within a very brief space of his decease. Some account of his life and labours will be found on another page.

In reply to the invitation issued by the Committee of the Library with a view to appointing a successor to Mr. Nicholls, 94 applications were received. Our readers will be glad to learn that our colleague, Mr. Taylor, of the Bristol Museum and Library has been appointed.

CAMBRIDGE: ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.—Mr. T. Bass Mullinger, M.A., has been appointed to the Librarianship of St. John's College. Mr. Mullinger is well known as the historian of his University, and for his numerous contributions to historical science. He is the author of the bibliographical portion of the well-known "Introduction to English History."

EALING.—The Reading Room of the Free Library was opened on August 1st, by the Chairman of the Committee. The Committee have leased for two years the premises formerly occupied as an institute; the Reading Room being upon the first floor, and the Lending and Reference Libraries upon the ground floor. Mr. Thomas Bonner has been appointed Librarian.

GLASGOW: MITCHELL LIBRARY.—A donation of unusual extent and value has just been made to this Library by Mr. Alexander Gordyne. Mr. Gordyne has taken great interest in the "Poets' Corner of this Library since its formation, and his gift of about 2,250 books and pamphlets, besides adding to the general stores of the Library, strengthens the department of Scottish poets by considerably over 1,000 new volumes. The gift includes many interesting specimens of early Glasgow and Provincial presses, and some broadsides and chap books of special rarity. Nearly all the books are enriched with notes by the collector as well as by newspaper cuttings and other illustrations. We hope to be able to give a fuller account of the collection.

HAVERHILL.—On the 28th of August a new public hall, presented by Mr. D. Gurteen, and including reading room and a library, was opened by Lord Waveney at Haverhill, near Cambridge.

LONDON: SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—We are requested to announce that the Dyce and Forster Reading Room, at the Museum, is now open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on other days from 10 a.m. until 4, 5 or 6 p.m. according to the season. The room is lighted by electric lamps.

MANCHESTER.—The Manchester Technical School was formally opened on Friday evening, September 28th, by Mr. Bernhard Samuelson, M.P., Chairman of the Royal Commission on Technical education. The School has been formed by the conversion of the Mechanics' Institution, and already a sum of £7,460. has been promised to defray the expenses of formation. The delivery of Mr. Samuelson's addressed was followed by a distribution of prizes. Mr. Slagg, M.P., expressed a hope that one of the conclusions of the Commission would be a recommondation to Parliament to impose a rate for the support of technical education.

NEWARK: GILSTRAP FREE LIBRARY.—We have already noticed the opening of the Gilstrap Free Library, which took place on July 26th. We have now to record that the townspeople of Newark invited Mr. and Mrs. Gilstrap to a soirée which was held on August 27th in the Corn Exchange. An address was presented to Mr. Gilstrap on behalf of the town, and a deputation of children presented to Mrs. Gilstrap a poetical address, which was we understand written by Mr. R. F. Sketchley.

NORTHAMPTON: FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.—The premises, consisting of a wing of the old prison which are in future to form the Library, Reading Room, and Museum of the town, were opened on Monday evening, October 8th, by the Mayor. The Rev. G. Nicholson, Chairman of the Library Committee, made a statement of the circumstances under which the removal had taken place, and congratulated the town on the acquisition of a room, which would for many years to come, serve their requirements much better at all events than the old one. He confessed that the Library was not in a satisfactory position, there having been a very large number of volumes given them that were not adapted for general reading, and which only served the purpose of accumulating dust. Then books of more general and lighter reading needed to be replaced and they were in terrible want of a new catalogue, their present one being only of the books belonging to the old Mechanics' Institute. Mr. Nicholson concluded by an appeal to the public for funds, which would untie the committee's hands. The Mayor then formally declared the Reading Room to be opened.

OXFORD: PUSEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY.—The Rev. Charles Gore, Fellow of Trinity College, has been appointed the first Librarian of this Library.

PLYMOUTH: FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—We have received a copy of an official statement setting forth the operations and advantages

of the various departments of the Institution, which has been recently printed for extensive circulation especially through the outlying districts of the town, with the view of reaching many who do not at present use the Library. We regret that the demand upon our space will not allow us to print the circular in full; but we must call attention to the fact that a Form of Application for a Borrower's Ticket is printed *on the back*—an arrangement with obvious advantages.

SALFORD: ROYAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.—The Committee have arranged for a Course of Free Popular Lectures during the autumn and winter months, which "are intended to show the use and value of the Books in the Library, Objects in the Museum, and Paintings in the Galleries, as aids to the Study of Literature, Science and Art. The Lectures in the First Course will be as follows:—Oct. 24th, "The History of Picture Books," by Mr. W. R. Credland; Nov. 7th, "Leaves, their Varied Forms and Curious Functions," by Mr. Richard Astley; Nov. 21st, "The Border Ballad," with illustrative Readings, by Mr. George Milner; Dec. 5th, "Some Birds Useful to Mankind," by Mr. Edward Kirk; Dec. 19th, "On Poetry," with illustrative Readings, by Mr. George Evans. A Second Course will be given in the New Year.

WIGAN.—The *Wigan Observer* contained an excellent account of the recent visit of the Library Association to Haigh Hall and to Wigan, of which we hope to make good use in the volume devoted to the Liverpool Meeting. We observe also that the Librarian at Wigan, our friend Mr. Folkard, is contributing a series of interesting papers to its columns under the title of "A Journey round the Wigan Reference Library," an excellent idea.

Our members will have received with much gratifaction the announcement that a Civil List pension has been granted to our honorary member, Mr. Edward Edwards. Mr. Edwards has just issued a further prospectus of the intended new edition of his Memoirs of Libraries, to be printed for subscribers only, which "it is hoped may be ready for issue in June, 1884." The prospectus is dated from Sea-View, Nilon, Isle of Wight.

A numerous and influential committee has been formed for the purpose of securing funds to provide a memorial to the late Professor Jevons. Some of our members who have a recollection of the keen interest which Prof. Jevons took in our proceedings, will doubtless be glad to have this opportunity of testifying their appreciation of one who was unrivalled for wide sympathies in everything that contributed to human welfare and his genuine personal kindliness. The treasurer to the fund is Mr. T. R. Wilkinson, Manchester and Salford Bank, Manchester. It is suggested that the memorial might take the form of a Studentship in Economic and Statistical research.

OUR readers will be interested in knowing that Mr. Jno. Hallam, the chairman, and Mr. James Bain, the librarian of the new public

library at Toronto are at present in this country, where they are purchasing books for the library. They are anxious, as our members are already aware, to secure a good attendance of English librarians at a library conference proposed to be held at Toronto in August of next year.

Stimulated by the example of Dr. Poole, Signor Narducci has written a letter in which he suggests to his fellow librarians the compilation of a general index to the periodical publications of Italy, including those of academies and learned societies.

At the Southport Meeting of the British Association Papers were read by Mr. James Heywood, on "Statistics of the Notting Hill Free Library," and by Prof. Leone Levi on the "Importance of Public Free Libraries in the interests of education."

The August, September and October double numbers of Dr. Petzholdt's excellent *Anzeiger* contain an account of the library belonging to the Imperial Post Office at Berlin, which has recently been carefully examined and arranged for the purpose of being catalogued. The first volume of the Catalogue is ready; the second part, to contain the maps belonging to the department, is being prepared. The number of volumes in the library on the 1st of May was 14,420.

We have received a communication from Professor Schulz, the librarian of the German Reichsgericht, whose Catalogue we noticed in our March number, with reference to the projected new library journal for Germany. It is proposed to issue it with the new year, and it will be under the direction of Dr. O. Hartwig, Oberbibliothekar of the Universitäts-bibliothek, Leipzig, and Professor Schulz himself. It will be called the "Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen."

Mr. Cotgreave informs us that one of his indicators to represent 40,000 volumes has been adopted for the Central Lending Library at Leeds. His indicator has also been adopted at Ealing and Portsmouth.

The Report of the Imperial Public Library of St. Petersburg has been issued, from which it appears that the accessions of printed books during the year were 24,843, and of MSS. 421, besides maps and plans, engravings and photographs. The Library was used by 12,277 persons who made use of 270,009 volumes, etc. and 267 manuscripts.

Bodley's Librarian has addressed the following letter to the literary journals:—

Bodleian Library: Sept. 1, 1883.

"Probably few people know that a Subject-Catalogue of the Bodleian has been for some years in compilation from a spare set of the slips written for the Alphabetical Catalogue. As the volumes in the library would be not far short of a million and a quarter, if each volume as issued had been bound separately; and as no pains will be spared to insure that the Subject-Catalogue shall be perfectly simple to use, as well as thorough in point of subdivision, it will, I trust, be far the most valuable index to knowledge which has ever been produced. Despite increased efforts, however, some years must elapse before its completion (indeed, the first great section will not

be ready for another year), and I am anxious that during the interval our labours should be of as much immediate use as possible.

If any reader in the library wants to know what we have on his special study, we are always ready to get the titles relating to it sorted out there and then; and we can generally put them before him—arranged in chronological order—in an hour or two. We cannot offer to do the like for anyone or everyone, however, because we should be so overwhelmed with applications that the special staff employed would have to be multiplied far beyond our means to afford any hope of promptly satisfying them. But, if anyone who is preparing for publication a bibliography of any subject (to appear as a distinct work, and not merely as an appendix to a book) will write to me, I will try to get the titles relating to that subject immediately separated and arranged for him to come here and look at them. If he cannot come here, I can probably recommend him someone who will copy or collate the titles for him. Even this offer *may* bring more applications than we can meet without materially delaying the systematic progress of the catalogue. I can only say that our best shall be done to help all, and that if we are obliged to disappoint anyone he shall at least not be kept waiting for an answer.

May I, at the same time, contradict a report circulated by various papers that I undertake to send anyone immediate notice of any book on his special subject which may be added to the Bodleian? Some day that may be feasible; at present it is not, and the offer was made only to persons anthorised to read in the library. All Oxford graduates, however, in all parts of the world, come under that category; and we shall be only too glad to be of use in this way to them, and to any other of our former readers who are now at a distance from us."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Somebody, in last issue of *Monthly Notes* (p. 116), signing himself "V. O. X.," asks some librarian to help him understand what the reference "Mo. R." in "Poole's Index" means. I beg to inform him that it means "Monthly Review," and not "Modern Review" as he supposes—the abbreviation of the latter serial being "Mod. R." If he had looked before he wrote he would have found this information on page xvi. of the Introduction, under the heading "Abbreviations." W. F. POOLE.

Public Library, Chicago, September 26, 1883.

[We feel that we owe Mr. Poole an apology for not having looked the matter up ourselves before inserting the communication from V. O. X.—who, we are sure, will be the first to regret what appears to be an unfortunate slip.—ED. M. N.]

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—November Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. E. M. Borrajo, "Richard Porson as a Librarian."—The Gardyne Collection at Glasgow—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Correspondence, etc.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held on Friday, December 7th, at 8 P.M., at the London Institution, when a Paper will be read, entitled "The Future of *Monthly Notes*," by the Hon. Secretary.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The Second Monthly Meeting of the Seventh Year of the Association was held on Friday, November 2nd, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen, being engaged in Library administration, were announced as having become members of the Association: Mr. C. ATCHLEY, Librarian, Colonial Office, S.W.; Mr. W. J. STEWART, Member of the Liverpool Free Public Libraries Committee (Life). It was also announced that the Corporation Library, Guildhall, became a subscriber.

The following gentlemen, who were duly proposed and seconded at the previous meeting, were then elected members: Mr. C. T. HILTON, and Mr. JAMES SAMUELSON, of Birkenhead (Life).

The following gentlemen were proposed and seconded for election at the next meeting: Sir A. C. STEPNEY, Bart., proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by the Secretary; Mr. JAMES COWAN, Ivy House, Urmston, Manchester, proposed by Mr. Conybeare, seconded by the Secretary; Mr. CHARLES HINDLEY, 41, Booksellers' Row, proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by the Secretary; Mr. W. PRICE WALL, Exeter, proposed by Mr. Cleasby, seconded by the

Treasurer; Mr. H. C. RICHARDS, M.L.S.B., proposed by the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Tedder.

The Secretary moved and Mr. Tedder seconded a motion to the effect that at the next monthly meeting Mr. JOHN HALLAM, Chairman of the Public Library Board of Toronto, and Mr. JAMES BAIN, Chief Librarian, Public Library, Toronto, be elected Honorary Members of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. E. M. BORRAJO to read his Paper, entitled,

RICHARD PORSON AS A LIBRARIAN.

As may be gathered from the title of this Paper, it is not my intention to treat of Porson, to use the opening words of the writer of the article upon him in the last edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, as "the greatest verbal critic and classical scholar of modern times"; nor to offer, even if I were able to do so, any elaborate analysis of the literary work which he has left for our instruction. My task is a much more simple one. I only propose to gather together such crumbs of information as are available, of his relation to that profession which he adopted in the sunset of a brilliant career.

Porson was born in 1759, and his great ability was conspicuous at so early an age as to attract the notice of many persons of eminence, who formed a fund for the purpose of sending him to Eton, and afterwards to Cambridge, and maintaining him during his stay at both places. His progress at the University was short and triumphant, he having taken his degree, obtained the first Chancellor's Medal, and been elected Fellow of Trinity College, in 1782, when he was in the twenty-third year of his age. And now commenced those brilliant contributions to critical and controversial literature with which you are all, doubtless, more or less, acquainted. Porson also commenced the study of theology, and became involved in the famous Travis controversy; his letters to Archdeacon Travis, published in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, proving how wide-spread was his reading in this particular subject. His determination not to enter the Church was the result of his studies, and when we recollect that he was a man without means, living in a not over-scrupulous age, his conduct in this matter is shown to be worthy of all praise. Rogers relates in his "Table Talk" that, upon this point, Porson spoke as follows:—"I found that I should require about fifty years' reading to make myself thoroughly acquainted with divinity—to satisfy my mind on all points—and therefore I gave it up. There are fellows who go into a pulpit assuming everything, and knowing nothing; but I would not do so." Well may Porson's biographer, the Rev. John Selby Watson, say, "but to resign a Trinity fellowship from difficulties as to creed, at a time when most of the clergy had laxer notions in regard to doctrines than they appear to have at present, and had certainly less show of strictness in their lives, manifested great conscientiousness and honesty." Although Porson made application to exchange his clerical fellowship for a lay one he

was unsuccessful, and he accordingly had to resign his fellowship in 1791, and to submit to the loss of his income. His privations, however, do not appear, happily, to have been of long duration, as in the following year a number of his admirers, scholars and literary men, subscribed a fund to supply Porson with an income. The amount realised was between £1,600 and £1,700, and the interest thereon (all Porson would accept) furnished an income of about £100 a year. Towards the close of the same year (1792) Porson was elected Professor of Greek at the University of Cambridge, a post which he held up to the time of his death in 1808. The appointment might have been valuable for the prestige it brought, although in this case it is doubtful whether the honour which the University did itself was not greater than that conferred on the man, but it was certainly not so in a pecuniary sense, as the magnificent salary attached to the post only amounted to £40 a year. Nor was Porson allowed to increase this amount by the delivery of an annual course of lectures in the college, as no rooms were assigned to him for the purpose. It is curious to note in connection with this matter that the largest fixed yearly income which Porson enjoyed during his lifetime, was in the capacity of librarian, and it seems to me a legitimate subject for inquiry how far the salaries of librarians have partaken in the general rise, affecting all professions and callings, which has taken place since the commencement of the present century. Again, is the rise (if any) in librarians' salaries in fair proportion to that which has occurred in those of other professions? As far as my knowledge goes, I should have no hesitation as to the answers to be given to these questions. Passing over the intervening years, filled up with literary labour and active participation in the principal controversies of the time, we reach the appointment of Porson as the librarian to the newly-founded London Institution in 1806, at a salary of £200 a year with a suite of apartments. I am unable to find at the London Institution anything bearing upon Porson's connection with it, beyond formal minutes and receipts for salary, a very poor plaster bust placed almost out of sight in its Committee room, where the public cannot see it, and the chair which he used; the latter a relic so little prized that now it is not shown at all. With regard to this latter fact, I cannot help expressing my surprise that a desire should not exist to keep alive in the memory of its members the connection of the Institution with Porson, who, whatever his faults, was a very great man; a connection, moreover, which, one might imagine would be looked back upon with feelings of pardonable pride. In the library of the London Institution, however, there are three books which bear upon their fly-leaves critical remarks in the beautiful handwriting of Porson, sufficiently curious to be repeated. In the works of Walter Moyle, Porson has written:—"Account, p. 10. In the list of sixteen Greek historians, the two last stood thus in Mr. Moyle's letter:

XV. Procopius, and XVI. Agathios.

The sagacious printer, thinking *and* to be, not a particle, but an omitted syllable of the foregoing word, has given us a new historian,

Proandcopius. This error (though corrected in the Errata) is worth notice, for thousands full as gross remain uncorrected in books, and are not so easy to detect; or at least to amend. Let any man, for example, try his hand on the note in p. 137."

In Dubois' "My Pocket-Book" there appears the following note:—"Such is the present eagerness of the public for anecdote, that, let an anonymous author tell the most scandalous and improbable falsehood of a known character, there will be no lack of readers to swallow it. In pages xii. and xiii. of the preface to this book the author charges the present Greek Professor of Cambridge with writing a parody on Pope's 'Eloisa.' This statement is certainly false, for the parody in question was printed for Faulder in 1780, as appears from the *Critical Review* for December, 1780, and from the *Monthly Review* for February, 1781. If, therefore, Mr. Porson wrote that parody, he must have written it when he was an undergraduate, many years before he became Greek Professor. But if the author should say that he only meant that the person who wrote the parody is now the Greek Professor, I shall pass over the clumsiness of the expression, and only desire him to produce his proofs of the latter fact. This I know, that I have several times heard Mr. P. seriously disown all share whatever in the composition of that parody, and all knowledge of its author."

In the volume of Anderson's "British Poets," containing Dryden, Porson has written:—"The Editor has with singular good faith suppressed about seven hundred of Dryden's verses, to wit, the twenty-seventh idyllium of Theocritus, with the translation from the third and fourth books of Lucretius. If the indecency of some passages was the cause of their suppression, why were not the verses against the love of life, and the fear of death, retained? Dr. Anderson has also omitted near two octavo pages of preface; but, to be consistent, he should have cancelled the paragraph in which mention is made of that part of the third book. However, to make Dryden some amends for depriving him of his own, he has given him two poems that are not his: *Tarquin and Tullia* and *Suum Cuique*. *Suum Cuique* was written by some staunch Jacobite, but I know not whom; *Tarquin and Tullia* was written by Arthur Mainwaring, who afterwards turned Whig, and expiated his youthful heresy in *The Medley*.—See Malone's *Life of Dryden*, p. 546.

"The accuracy of the editor is equal to his good faith. P. 679, *Horace* de Arte Amandi, for *Ovid*."

Besides these three instances, there are notes by Porson in some of the volumes of the Greek classics in the library, but, beyond this, it cannot be said that he left any lasting impression of his work there. He appears hardly to have attended in the library at all, nor excepting in the Greek and Latin classics, to have increased the number of its volumes by judicious purchases, such as would naturally have been expected from such a man: neither am I able to find that he attempted to catalogue its contents. The managers of the London Institution appear to have written a letter to him in which they remarked that, "they only knew him to be their librarian by see-

ing his name attached to the receipts for his salary." He, in his turn, thought the Managers "mercantile and mean beyond merchandise and meanness." This being the state of the relation between employers and employed, there can be little doubt that Porson would not long have continued librarian of the London Institution, but, that his death in 1808 brought his career to a close at the comparatively early age of 49. The attendance to receive his salary, and his death at the Institution, seem to give fresh point to the adage which declares the only two certainties in life to be "death and quarter-day." Porson's body was removed to Cambridge, and buried, with some ceremony, in the chapel of Trinity College. The value of Porson's private library may be gathered from the simple fact that, with the prices current in 1808, it realised over £2,000. The amount which he left at his death proves that he exercised more economy than he was probably credited with during life. In considering his unsatisfactory work at the London Institution, it is but fair to recollect that his health, never very good, had commenced to break down before his appointment there, and culminated in the very rapid advent of the crisis only two years afterwards.

I am only able to find in Porson three of the traits essential to a good librarian, viz: good memory, vast knowledge of books, and imagination. As regards his memory many wonderful stories are told. He could recollect not only a passage, but on which side of the page it occurred, in different editions. He is said to have been able to retain the contents of a book once read, and to repeat "Roderick Random" from beginning to end. It has been written of him that, "nothing came amiss to his memory: he would set a child right in his twopenny fable-book, repeat the whole of the moral tale of the Dean of Badajos, or a page of Athenæus on cups, or Eustathius on Homer."

His knowledge of books was undoubtedly great, and to quote Dr. Parr:—"If the Duke of Brunswick at the head of his Huns and Vandals, were to burn every book of every library in Cambridge, Porson, being, as Longinus was said to be, a living library, would make the University hear without books more than they are likely to read with books."

Imagination I have ventured to class as an essential for a librarian, because I think that his work has an imaginative, as well as a practical side; the one being as necessary, if not exaggerated or pushed too far, as the other. There is one sentence ascribed to Porson by Rogers which, if we knew naught else about him, would stamp him as a poet. It runs thus:—"When Prometheus made man, he had used up all the water in making other animals; so he mingled his clay with tears."

Of the things which Porson appears to have been wanting in was those most important to the proper discharge of a librarian's duties, viz., a plodding, methodical and regular attention to work. Bodley's librarian (Mr. E. B. Nicholson), himself a distinguished successor in the post occupied by Porson, told the Conference of Librarians, which met in London in 1877, and told them rightly that above all

a librarian should be a 'man of business.' His greatest admirers would, I think, fail to recognise this quality in Porson.

Again that catholicity of taste which should distinguish the librarian seems to have been absent in Porson, if we may credit a phrase ascribed to him by Rogers:—"I must confess to have a very strong prejudice against all German original literature." Librarians have no business with prejudices. Taken altogether, an examination of what little is known of Porson as a librarian, would lead us to the conclusion, that to make a good librarian much more, as well as much less, than a brilliant scholar is necessary.

Of the many anecdotes told of Porson there is one given by Colton in the second volume of his "Lacon," which is so good as to bear repetition. "Porson was once travelling in a stage coach, when a young Oxonian, fresh from College, was amusing the ladies with a variety of talk, and amongst other things, with a quotation, as he said, from Sophocles. A Greek quotation, and in a coach too! roused our slumbering professor, from a kind of dog sleep, in a snug corner of the vehicle:—shaking his ears, and rubbing his eyes, I think, young gentleman, said he, you favoured us just now with a quotation from Sophocles; I do not happen to recollect it there. Oh, Sir, replied our Tyro, the quotation is word for word as I have repeated it, and in Sophocles too; but I suspect, Sir, it is some time since *you* were at college. The professor applying his hand to his great coat, and taking out a small pocket edition of Sophocles, quietly asked him if he could be kind enough to show him the passage in question, in that little book; after rummaging the pages for some time, he replied, 'upon second thoughts, I now recollect that the passage is in Euripides.' 'Then, perhaps Sir,' said the professor, putting his hand again into his pocket, and handing him a similar edition of Euripides, 'you will be so good as to find it for me in that little book.' The young Oxonian returned again to his task, but with no better success, muttering however to himself, '*Curse me if ever I quote Greek again in a coach.*' The tittering of the ladies informed him that he was got into a hobble; at last, 'Bless me, Sir, said he, how dull I am; I recollect now, yes, yes, I perfectly remember, that the passage is in Æschylus.' The inexorable professor returned again to his inexhaustible pocket, and was in the act of handing him an Æschylus, when our astonished Freshman vociferated, 'Stop the coach—halloah, coachman, let me out I say, instantly—let me out! there's a fellow here has got the whole Bodleian Library in his pocket; let me out I say—let me out; he must be Porson, or the Devil!'"

Colton also relates in the same volume, referring to Porson that, "after death, his head was dissected, and to the confusion of all craniologists, but to the consolation of all blockheads, it was discovered that he had the thickest skull of any professor in Europe. Professor Gall, on being called upon to explain this phenomenon, and to reconcile so tenacious a memory with so thick a receptacle for it, is said to have replied, "How the ideas got into such a skull, is their business, not mine; I have nothing to do with that; but let

them once get in—that is all I want; once in, I will defy them ever to get out again."

There is one point which I have carefully avoided touching upon in this brief paper, and that is, the faults which disfigured the character of Porson. We have already too much tendency at the present day to emphasize the vices of great men—vices which passed away with the men themselves, leaving us the noble heritage of their work unsoiled. In conclusion, I cannot do better than quote the words used by Savage, the under-librarian with Porson at the London Institution, in an account of Porson's death which he published in the first volume of his publication, "The Librarian," —an ancestor of "Monthly Notes" issued in 1808.

"In giving a relation of the facts concerning the illness of Mr. Porson, I cannot let the opportunity escape me, our official situations bringing us a good deal together, of lamenting in common with his most intimate friends, the loss of so pleasing and so valuable an acquaintance; for to the most gigantic powers of learning and criticism were united the manners of a gentleman, and the inoffensive habits of a child; and I am sorry to have occasion to observe, in concluding this narrative, that, especially since the Professor's decease, there should be found persons, who have used no common industry in representing his failings in such pointed terms, as totally to shade the numerous good qualities which were inherent in his nature; so that it cannot but be remarked with pity, that those persons should be deficient in one of those excellent qualities, which he possessed in an eminent degree, *never speaking ill of any one*,—but Shakspeare has well observed, upon another occasion,

"Men's evil manners live in brass; their virtues we write in water."

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper.

The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary to read his Paper entitled "Popular Libraries of Paris." After a discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper, and the Meeting adjourned.

THE GARDYNE COLLECTION.

WE take from the *Glasgow Herald* of October 13th, the following account of Mr. Alexander Gardyne's gift to the Mitchell Library, of which a brief notice appeared in our last number.

The total number of books and pamphlets added to the shelves by this generous gift is about 2,250, including a number in other departments of literature than poetry, and a few manuscripts, one or two, so far as known, unpublished. Making all allowance for such as may be classed under general literature, and also for a few duplicates previously in the library, this gift, so well fitted to appeal to the generous feeling of other collectors, strengthens the galaxy of

Scottish poets by the addition of considerably over 1,000 volumes hitherto unrecorded in our local *Libre d'Or* or Mitchell Catalogue. Such an addition may well excite the enthusiastic librarian to record that the collection of which he is now the happy custodier is not only larger than the most sanguine could have anticipated within the short period, but, with an exception to be afterwards mentioned, is probably the most extensive in existence. At any rate, it affords an opportunity, practically unlimited, for studying under the most favourable conditions the distinctive and characteristic features of Scottish poetry, local as well as national—from the mighty masters of the lyre to the village rhymester, and all degrees between these extremes. It should also be noticed that the gift includes many interesting specimens of early Glasgow and provincial presses, and a few broadsides and chap-books of special rarity. To make such a collection for the "Mitchell" under ordinary circumstances would have required years of watchfulness, as well as a very considerable expenditure of money. All the volumes are neatly but strongly bound, a number of pieces, small in bulk but kindred in character, and varying in number from half a dozen to a score, being included within the compass of one volume. A careful table of contents is prefixed to each of these, so that those consulting them need suffer neither loss of time nor disappointment in getting at what they want. Nearly the whole are also enriched with manuscript notes by Mr. Gardyne himself, concerning the author or probable author of what appears as anonymous, while in the true spirit of a discriminating and intelligent collector he has not thought it beneath the dignity of a pursuit full of the most charming variety and interest to affix in many of the books some newspaper cutting having a close relation to the contents of the book, ballad, or pamphlet, with here and there an extra portrait or other drawing.

A very few lines about the collector and donor himself may not be out of place. Living for some years in London, Mr. Gardyne, as of Arbroath birth, is a Scotsman in something more even than descent and tastes. Leaving his native place when young, Mr. Gardyne, like so many of his countrymen, pushed his fortune with success, first in India and then in the Mauritius. Even at this time he was nurturing a natural taste for books, as a few volumes still in his library, fished out from the bed of the ocean, bear palpable evidence of the narrow escape of their owner from perils at sea in the course of one of his early voyages. Since returning and settling permanently in this country Mr. Gardyne has devoted the greater part of his leisure time in carrying out his early book tastes by collecting, arranging, and annotating almost everything that was worthy of a place in what he soon found to be his fast-growing collection of books relating to Scottish history and Scottish poetry. Some notion of the catholicity of his taste, no less than of his unwearied industry and liberality in purchasing, may be gathered from the fact that his generous gift to the Mitchell Library, extensive and valuable as it is in rarities, represents but little more than a fragment of the vast collection still left for enjoyment in his own magnificent library.

Since the establishment of a Poet's Corner in the "Mitchell," almost identical in point of time with the opening of the library, Mr. Gardyne has manifested an interest in it through correspondence and donations, till his kindly spirit, satisfied with the wise, liberal, and intelligent management of the Institution, has made it the resting-place of a gift as great in value as it is rare in occurrence. The appeal may now be made with ever-increasing zeal for some new, safer, and more extended fabric in which the treasures now being so ungrudgingly bestowed upon the Mitchell Library may be housed. The titles of even a few of the lesser ephemera—"something that now is and to-morrow may be cast into the oven"—will sufficiently indicate the richness of the vein in which the student may now work at the "Mitchell" through the disinterested liberality of a gentleman who may well be classed among the foremost collectors of his day. Taking up a handful of Scottish satires almost at random, we find "Edinburgh; a Poem on the Bench," with a curious folding frontispiece by "Luke Sharpe" in the manner of Kaye—at one time, as appears from the book-plate, in the Coulter Mains Library; "The Queen's Voyage, or The Follies of Scotland" (1842); "The Telegraph, an Epistle from T. Muir, Hunter's-hill, in Botany Bay, to Henry Erskine;" "Norman's Blast," a rejected contribution to *Good Words* on the Sabbath question; "Fair Helen of Kirkconnal," by Stewart Lewis, a narrative ballad on a well-known Annandale tragedy, recalling "Gil Marice" and "Gilderoy;" "Farewell Song of the Caledonian Muse," by Munro; "Poems," by the "Berwickshire Ploughman," 1807; "Sketch of Time," by R. Flockhart, famous as an Edinburgh street preacher; "Poems," by William Wilson, a wandering wight of Homer's craft, Dumfries, 1803, one, written after a fall at the new academy then building, commencing with the portentous line, "Thy praise I sing, Thou Great First Cause;" "Elegies" on various public characters who died about 1800; "Poems on Recent Events," by Mrs. Nisbet, 1780; "Metrical Legends and other Poems," by C. K. Sharpe, Oxford, 1807, dedication dated Hoddam Castle; "Poems," by John Galt, with a long list of the novelist's other writings, 1833; "Songs for Harveian Anniversaries," by Sir Alexander Boswell, 1816, &c.; "Songs, Odes, Anthems, and Epigrams," by Alex. Rodger, an operative weaver of Glasgow (London: R. Carlile) no Glasgow publisher being willing to risk issue of these rather peppery satires by the author of "Robin Tamson's Smiddy)" "Airdrie Fair," Glasgow, 1792; "Ballads and Songs of Ayrshire," Forfarshire and Aberdeen Ballads, Galloway Poems, by M'Dowall, 1828; "Memorables of the Montgomeries" and "Polemo-Middinia," by Drummond, both from the Foulis' press; miscellaneous religious pieces by Jean Adams, of Crawfordsdyke, reputed authoress of "Nae Luck about the House," Glasgow, 1734, with an interesting list of subscribers; "Britannia Triumphans," by Pennicuik, 1718; "Lights and Shadows of Scottish Character," by Cincinnatus Caledonius, otherwise Barbour of Bogrie; a particularly fine copy, bound in vellum extra gilt, with portrait inserted, of "Songs chiefly in the rural language of

Scotland," by Allan Cunningham (his first acknowledged publication), 1813, a presentation copy with the poet's autograph; "Translations and Poems" by Samuel Boyce, dedicated to Susannah, Countess of Eglinton; "The Northern Laird and his Tenant," a tale by John Burnes, a private in the Forfarshire Militia; a bundle of poetical chap-books, printed at Paisley, Kilmarnock, and Beith; "Paisley Repository" and "Miscellany;" Buchanan's Poems, a beautiful Elzevir, in perfect condition, with engraved title, 1628. The manuscripts include the "Commonplace Book" of Mrs. Riddell, friend and correspondent of Burns, continued till about the year of her death, 1808; and the "Maid of Avon," founded on the story of Wallace, bearing the book-plate of another famous collector, T. Jolley, F.S.A.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BIRKENHEAD.—We regret to learn that the illness of our Member, Mr. Richard Hinton, Librarian of the Free Public Library, Birkenhead, which prevented him from taking part in the Liverpool Meeting has terminated fatally. Mr. Hinton died at Higher Tranmere on Nov. 12, aged 64 years. He had been Librarian from the opening of the Library in 1856.

BRADFORD.—The Bradford Public Library and Art Museum Committee at the early part of the present year, passed a resolution that the Central Reading Rooms, Reference Library and Art Museum be opened on Sunday, but the Town Council deemed it inexpedient to adopt such resolution, and referred the matter back to the Committee, who, as yet, have not deemed it advisable to reconsider the question. The Lord's-day Rest Association have, since the resolution was rejected, become the parents of a local committee, and the opposition of this committee to the opening may possibly bring about a result the reverse of what they desire, as already, by their efforts the matter has been frequently mooted at the various ward meetings in connection with the present municipal elections, and as far as can be judged the proposal to open on Sundays seems to be growing in favour.

BRISTOL.—The vacancy in the Librarianship of the Bristol Museum and Library caused by the appointment of Mr. John Taylor to the City Librarianship (as announced in our last number) has been filled up by the appointment of Mr. E. R. N. Matthews, formerly of the Birmingham Free Libraries.

CARDIFF.—The new Municipal Art Galleries at the Cardiff Free Library buildings were formally opened by the Mayor on Oct 23. In the evening a reception was held by Mr. Alderman Taylor, chairman of the Free Library Committee.

GATESHEAD.—Mr. G. Hall Elliott, Sub-Librarian of the Literary and Philosophical Society, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, has been appoint-

ed Chief Librarian of Gateshead Public Library, the building of which is now in course of erection, and is expected to be ready for use in May next.

LONDON: BATTERSEA.—A resolution has been passed by the Battersea Vestry (Oct. 11), on the motion of Mr. John Cleave, that it is desirable to adopt the Free Libraries' Acts. A number of public meetings in favour of the movement have been held since.

MANCHESTER.—At a Special Meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, held in the Mayor's Parlour at the Town Hall, on November 12th, a number of books and MSS. from his Library were exhibited by the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. After his Lordship had described the articles exhibited, Mr. Axon and Mr. Sutton addressed the meeting, and a vote of thanks was given to the Earl on the motion of Sir Thomas Baker and Mr. H. H. Howorth.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — The foundation stone of the new public buildings in which accommodation is to be provided for the Free Library, was laid on October 24th by the Mayor. The cost of the building will be about £100,000.

NORTHWICH.—A movement in favour of adopting the Free Libraries Acts is in progress at Northwich. A meeting was held on October 15th, Mr. Thomas Moore taking the Chair in the unavoidable absence of Mr. John Moore, who is Chairman of the Local Board, and who is a hearty supporter of the movement. Resolutions in favour of adopting the Acts and appointing a Committee were passed, and a subscription at once opened. Numerous promises of support have been received, and the subscriptions already amount to about £500.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Friday, November 2nd, a room situated at the north-east angle of the building was opened as an additional reading-room in connection with the Free Public Library. It is well lighted and comfortable, and is approached from the Lending Library and Reading Room. On the three large tables therein, there is a good supply of trade, professional, and illustrated papers and other periodicals. Shelving is in course of preparation to contain the unbound numbers of periodicals, so that they may be more accessible for the purpose of reference than they have hitherto been. A junior assistant is in attendance. His Worship the retiring Mayor of Nottingham (Leonard Lindley, Esq.), has marked his appreciation of the work of the Reference Library by presenting 53 volumes to it during his year of office. This valuable and useful gift comprises the library edition of Carlyle's Works in 34 volumes, and a number of standard scientific and technical works.

ST. HELENS.—The forthcoming Report of the Free Public Library, will at the request of the Committee include a notice of the Liverpool Meeting of the Library Association. On the 15th of November, Mr. Alfred Lancaster, Librarian of the Free Public Library, delivered an address on "The St. Helens Free Public Library and

its Contents," to the St. Helens Association for the Pursuit of Science, Literature and Art.

SHREWSBURY.—It has been decided by the townspeople to purchase the buildings of the Royal School for the purpose of a county Museum and Free Library. A subscription list was recently inaugurated by Admiral Jenkins (ex-Mayor of Shrewsbury), who gave £250, and since then nearly the whole sum—namely £4,000—has been subscribed.

WATFORD.—A somewhat curious use of the Public Libraries Acts is being made at Watford, where they are being applied for the purpose of carrying on a School of Music, affiliated to the Royal College of Music. This is, we understand, the first provincial school in connection with the College.

WIGAN.—The Library Committee of the Corporation have arranged a series of lectures in connection with the Free Library, and the introductory lecture entitled "A Talk about Books" was delivered on Saturday, October 27th, by our friend Mr. W. E. A. Axon. The Mayor of Wigan (Mr. Ald. Park) who will be remembered for his cordial reception of the Association the other day, presided, and Mr. Axon was listened to by a large and attentive audience, chiefly of working men. A vote of thanks to the lecturer was moved by the Mayor, and seconded by Mr. G. L. Campbell.

Mr. Thomas Mason, Librarian of Stirling and Glasgow Public Library, has contributed two articles, entitled "With the Librarians at Liverpool," to the *Fifeshire Journal*, of September 27, and October 4. Mr. Mason concludes his lively sketches by exclaiming "Happy librarians! The sustained festivity of the Liverpool meeting was almost bewildering. From early morn till—we will not say how far past dewy eve—there was something to be heard, seen, or eaten. We pity the fate of future local secretaries."

We have received the *Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution*, for the year 1881, Washington, 1883; 8vo, pp. xvi., 839, from which we learn that the number of foreign addresses in communication with the Institution (which in 1850 was 173) amounted in 1881 to 2,908. The accessions to the Library, which, as our readers are aware, is kept in the Library of Congress, numbered 11,959. In the General Appendix to the Report are the usual record of recent scientific progress and several miscellaneous papers, including a "History of the Smithsonian System of Exchanges."

The October number of the *Harvard University Bulletin*, in addition to the usual official intelligence and lists of accessions to the Library, contains further instalments of the 'Classified Index to Maps in Petermann's Mittheilungen," and the "Bibliography of Ptolemy's Geography," and the first instalment of a very interesting descriptive account of the "Kohl Collection of Early Maps," belonging to the Department of State, Washington, by Justin Winsor.

In connexion with the Luther Exhibition at the British Museum, it is interesting to notice that the Town Library of Leipzig, organized in October a similar Exhibition of pictures, books, medals and other objects connected with Luther. An account of the various articles collected appeared in the *Leipziger Tageblatt* of 7th October, 1883, for a separate print of which we are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Axon. The major portion of the articles exhibited belonged to the Town Library, a few were furnished by the other Leipzig collections and original editions of some of Luther's Works were contributed by Heinrich Klemm, the well-known Dresden collector. We regret that we cannot at present afford the space to give a fuller notice of this exhibition, which would afford many interesting points of comparison with the collection for which we have to thank the principal Librarian and the keepers of the various Departments at our own Museum.

The *Law Journal*, of Nov. 10th, in noticing the edition of the Cambridge University and College Statutes, prepared for the University Press by Mr. Henry Bradshaw, observes, "The preface contains a passage which makes us regret that Mr. Bradshaw does not argue cases in court on the construction of statutes," and proceeds to quote the passage, in itself sufficiently interesting.

"In reproducing the text of the statutes no attempt has been made to correct anything but the most obvious clerical or printer's errors; but, as one object of this edition has been to put the reader in possession of an accurate copy of the sealed documents themselves, with all their legitimate inconsistencies of spelling and punctuation, a table of such errata as have been noticed in the sealed copies will be found immediately preceding the text. This table is printed in a form which will enable anyone to see, in every case, (1) what is the actual erroneous reading of the copy annexed to the Order in Council; (2) what is the reading of the original authoritative publication of the statute in the *London Gazette*; (3) what is the reading of the present edition; and, finally, (4) what —sometimes different from all the preceding—is believed to be the correct reading."

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Borough of Nottingham Free Public Libraries Class List (No. 2) of Books in the Reference Library... C. Theology and Ecclesiastical History.... Nottingham, 1883, la. 8vo, pp. 31 and wrapper. Price Twopence.

A List of over 800 vols. arranged under the heads—Bampton Lectures: Bible; Editions and Translations—Commentaries—Concordances; Boyle Lectures; Collected Works: Eccles. History; Exeter Hall Lectures; Hulsean Lectures; Parker Society's Publications; Sects and Non-Christian Religions, besides which the name of every author is entered in alphabetical order.

Barrow-in-Furness. The First Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, 1882-3.... Barrow-in-Furness, 1883. 8vo, pp. 18.

The Library was opened September 18th, 1882, and "from its opening the

Institution has proved a great success," and the temporary premises are already found to be too small for the requirements. The number of Vols. in the Lending Department is 6,432, in the Reference Department 660. The issues for the year have been in the former 63,070, in the latter 7,378. About 3,500 persons attend the news room each week. The proportion of Fiction issued appears considerably below the average, and the issue of books relatively to the population is high. The Committee and the Librarian are to be congratulated on their first year's work.

Brighton Free Library, Museum, and Picture Gallery. Ninth Annual Report... Brighton, 1883. 8vo, pp. 16.

The Committee acknowledge among other donations special collections from Mr. H. J. Mathews and Mr. W. J. Smith, in the one case of local literature, in the other of books dealing with the history of Nonconformity. There are Reports from the Library, Museum, and Picture Gallery Sub-Committees, the former urging the desirability of providing the Librarian with an assistant. There are no statistics.

Devon and Exeter Albert Memorial Museum, Schools of Science and Art, and Free Library. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Committee... Exeter, 1883, la. 8vo, pp. 20.

The Library Sub-Committee report that the number of Vols. in the Lending Department is 9,316, and in the Reference Department 2,915, exclusive of pamphlets. The number of borrowers on the register is 1,486. The issues were in the Lending Department 27,682, and in the Reference 15,969. The Reading and News-rooms are well attended. The Committee announce that the subscriptions promised are nearly enough to defray the cost of the first portion of the new buildings, which are badly needed. The receipts from the Borough Fund were £660, and the outgoings £661 17s. 3d.

Leicester. The Twelfth Annual Report of the Free Library Committee of the Borough of Leicester.... 1883, Leicester. 8vo, pp. 28.

The Committee report the continued success of the Institution. The number of Vols. in the Lending Department is now 13,957, in the Reference Department 7,246. The issues in the former were 149,589—an increase of 15,165; in the latter 31,056—an increase of 617. The number of borrowers tickets issued during the year was 2,182. There is a list of 32 additions to the Leicestershire Department, which now numbers 591 vols. The halfpenny rate produced £835 7s., besides which the miscellaneous sources of income (of which Fines produced £81 11s. 8d.) produced £151.

Borough of Newport. The Public Free Library and School of Art and Science. Thirteenth Annual Report... Newport, 1883. 8vo, pp. 23.

During the 252 days on which the Library was open 41,111 vols. were lent and consulted, being a decrease of 2,185, which may be accounted for by the inconvenient position of the temporary premises. The total number of vols. in stock is 8,979. The new buildings were opened, and the attendance in the news-room since has been very large. The Committee hope to appeal for contributions towards a Museum Fund. The grant from the Town Council was £560. There is a separate Report appended from the Committee of the School.

Rochdale. The Twelfth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Rochdale, for the Year ending March 31st, 1883... Rochdale. 8vo, pp. 19.

The number of Vols. added to the Library was 1,713, and makes the total number at present in the Library 33,348, exclusive of Specifications of Patents. The issues were in the Reference Department 62,505, in the Lending Department 91,618. The total issues were fewer than in some previous years, but the Lending Department was closed for some time in consequence of the small-pox epidemic. The amount of the rate was £1,010. The Circulating Library numbers about 80 subscribers, and the issues were 4,447; 311 vols. were transferred from it to the Free Public Library.

Smethwick. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee of the Smethwick Local Board of Health, 1882-3... Oldbury. 8vo, pp. 8.

The number of Vols. now in the Library is 4,766, of which 462 were added during the past year. The issues were 35,333; and the attendance at the Reading Room averaged 1,200 per week during the whole year. The issues of Fiction were 70.26 per cent. of the total issues. The usual statistical tables are appended.

Borough of Southport. Atkinson Free Library. Eighth Annual Report, 1882-3. Southport. 8vo, pp. 10.

The number of Vols. in the Library is now 12,058, of which 965 were added during the year. The issues were for home use 78,092; in the Reading Room 33,339. It is estimated that 392,057 visits were made to the News and Reading Rooms. The Churchtown Branch shows a considerable increase increase of readers and borrowers, the numbers being 6,879 and 1,808 respectively. The income was £848 odd, and the expenditure £844 odd.

Borough of Stockport. The Seventh Report of the Public Free Library and Museum Committee, 1882-3. Stockport. La. 8vo, pp. 31.

The present Report records the result of 18 months working. The issues for the last 12 months from the Lending Library were 71,465. The attendance at the News and Reading Room showed a marked increase, the total for the year being 148,884 visits. The number of vols. added since the last Report was 1,282, making the total stock 18,314. The visitors to the Museum for the 12 months were 30,940. Full statistical tables are appended. The rate produced last year £796 3s. 1d. and the total income was £852 1s. 10d.; the expenditure was £825 6s. 6d.

The Annual Report of the Airdrie Free Library (which is not separately printed) states that the issues for the last year, as well as the visits to the Reading Room were somewhat less than the year before. The issues were 13,827, and the visits to the Reading Room were 25,885. About 400 vols. were added during the year, 170 by gift.

The Report issued to the Subscribers to the Wrexham Free Library states that the daily average of visitors for the year was 301 as against 231 the previous year, and 157 in 1881. The Committee regret that they do not yet see their way to a circulating library, and invite subscriptions and donations. The income for the year was £280 16s. 9d., and the year closes with a balance of £77 13s. 11d. in hand. The rate produced £240 3s. 8d.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. POOLE'S INDEX.

No one can value Dr. Poole's monumental work with more grateful appreciation than myself, and I regret that I should have occasioned its author any unnecessary trouble. On reference to the introductory pages, the discrepancy which in some cases exists between the number used in the *Index* to denote volumes of Periodicals, and that which appears upon the volumes themselves becomes intelligible. It is to be feared that many of those who casually consult such works of reference as that of Dr. Poole's, do not master the preliminary matter, though this care is the least to which Dr. Poole may feel entitled after the labour spent upon his invaluable Index. V. O. X.

Library, Inner Temple, E.C., November 10, 1883.

I had occasion yesterday to refer to "Poole's Index" for a reference to Lord Salisbury's famous article "The Conservative Surrender," which appeared in the *Quarterly Review*, vol. 123 (1867). I looked under every head I could think of, but it is not indexed. Mr. Poole's Work is done on the whole so admirably that I call attention to this omission, as Librarians may like to make a note in the margin of their copies.

J E. L. PICKERING,
Librarian.

[The Article referred to will be found indexed, Mr. Douthwaite informs us, under the heading "Great Britain, Politics of, in 1867—Conservative Surrender," (p. 549*b*). No doubt it would have saved our correspondent trouble if it had also been entered under the heading "Conservative ——," where we do find "Conservative Prospects," "Conservative Policy," and many other Conservative things.—ED.]

DISFIGURING BOOKS.

The tendency has grown of late to disfigure books by writing on the title-page such phrases as "With the compliments of the author," or "With the author's kind regards," in spite of the fact that a fly-leaf is often provided for the purpose. I have lately seen this done by a distinguished member of the Library Association, and a book-lover to boot. One appreciates the kindly spirit that prompts the gift. The silent eloquence of the act, to an appreciative mind, will need no reminder. Especially is this so if the book is worth having, less need is there then to injure or interfere with the typographer's art.

But to some of us this disfiguring gives the impression of advertising the private, social, or more sacred feelings of our common nature. For literary men and book lovers are often of a curiosity-mongering turn of mind and inclined now, as they probably will be in the future, to fill some pages with the enquiry as to who "A. B." or "Y. Z." may have been. This is not always to the advantage or improvement of literature; and to the appreciative and book-loving members of the Library Association, surely, a hint is sufficient.

BIBLIOTHEC. COLL. OWENS.

ERRATA.

Owing to the miscarriage of a portion of the proofs, the following errors in the October number require correction: on p. 118 l. 8 *for* Horace *read* Hance; on p. 119 l. 1, *for* Stevens *read* Stephens; on p. 128 l. 10 from bottom, *for* Gordyne *read* Gardyne; p. 130 l. 13 from bottom, *for* Nilon *read* Niton.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—December Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. E. C. Thomas, "The Future of Monthly Notes."—January Monthly Meeting—Bibliography of the Writings of Professor Stanley Jevons—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Correspondence, etc.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held at the London Institution, on Friday, January 4th, at 8 P.M.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The Third Monthly Meeting of the Seventh Year of the Association was held on Friday, December 7th, at 8 P.M. at the London Institution, Mr. W. H. OVERALL in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen being engaged in library administration were announced as having become Members of the Association:—Mr. EDWARD C. LINGS, Librarian, Leicester Free Library (who rejoins); Mr. D. GORMAN, Librarian, Free Library, Chesterfield; Mr. T. BAILEY, Librarian, Free Library, Smethwick. It was also announced that the FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, NOTTINGHAM, had become a subscriber.

The following gentlemen who had been duly proposed and seconded at the previous Meeting, were elected Members of the Association:—Mr. JAMES COWAN; Mr. H. C. RICHARDS; Sir A. C. STEPNEY, Bart., and Mr. W. PRICE WALL.

Mr. JOHN HALLAM, Chairman, and Mr. JAMES BAIN, Librarian, of the Public Library, Toronto, were then, on the motion of the Secretary and Mr. H. R. Tedder, unanimously elected Honorary Members of the Association.

The following gentlemen were proposed and seconded for election at the next Meeting:—Mr. R. S. Faber, 14, Westbourne Terrace Road, W., proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by the Secretary; Mr. John Moore, Chairman of the Local Board, Northwich, proposed by Mr. Cotgreave, seconded by the Secretary.

The Chairman then called upon the Secretary to read his Paper entitled, "THE FUTURE OF MONTHLY NOTES."

THE FUTURE OF MONTHLY NOTES.

IT is already known to those of our members who were present at the Liverpool Meeting, or who followed its proceedings as reported in the MONTHLY NOTES, that with the end of the present year an important change is to be made in the mode of publishing the "Transactions and Proceedings" of our Annual Meeting and in the form of our present Journal.

The change about to be made, even as regards our Transactions, will be almost wholly a change of form; and has been proposed with the view partly of securing greater promptitude of publication, and partly of reducing the cost of their publication. We are all proud of the series of handsome volumes of which the London and Cambridge Transactions are destined to occupy the last, and we are greatly indebted to the friendly offices of Mr. B. F. Stevens, without which it is certain that they could never have been published. The expense attending the publication of our various proceedings in two different forms is a matter that has for some time engaged our attention, and the decision of the Annual Meeting at Liverpool that they should henceforward be printed in one form only—but with separate pagination for each series—was not arrived at therefore without due consideration.

One effect of the change will be to give increased importance to what have hitherto been called the "Monthly Notes," and in view of this circumstance the Council have decided to issue them in future under the name of the "Library Chronicle."

The "Future of the Monthly Notes" therefore means the "Future of the Library Chronicle," and my object this evening is in the first place to lay before you such suggestions as are the result of my two years' experience in editing the "Monthly Notes," and secondly to invite the suggestions of those who are present this evening, or may read the present Paper when it is printed.

The most convenient way of doing what I propose will perhaps be to explain briefly what have been the principles upon which the "Notes" have been edited since they have been intrusted to my charge.

In the first place it has of course always been the duty of the Editor to give an account of all our official proceedings, and to print the Papers read at our Monthly Meetings.

In the second place a considerable number of Articles have been printed during the last two years over and above the Papers read at Monthly Meetings. It will be remembered that at the beginning of the year 1882 the "Notes" were enlarged from eight pages to a normal sixteen pages monthly. This enlargement of course enabled us to find room for more Papers than could be read and discussed at Monthly Meetings, as well as for some Articles not altogether suitable for discussion, such, for example, as the late Prof. Jevons's "Selected list of Books in Political Economy."

Comparing the "Notes" with themselves, and the year 1882 (as the last completed year) with the year 1881, it will be found that in

the year 1881 *seven* Papers read at Monthly Meetings were printed, and in the year 1882 *six* Papers and *ten* additional Articles, making total of sixteen Papers, were printed.

In the third place, a most obvious duty to be performed by the "Notes" was to supply prompt and authentic information as to the work done by the Libraries represented in the Association and others. This has been supplied in the form of Notes and News on all matters of Library interest, and also in the form of abstracts of the Reports issued by the various Library authorities.

In this respect I venture to think a considerable advance has been made, as may be roughly but sufficiently demonstrated by figures. In the year 1881 the number of paragraphs published under the heading of "Library Notes" was 45, including five Abstracts of Library Reports. In the year 1882 the number of Library Reports noticed had increased from 5 to 71, in addition to 196 paragraphs of Notes and News on library matters, thus making a total of 267 paragraphs.

Under the same heading with Reports there appeared in the year 1882 notices of 29 Library Catalogues, as compared with 4 Catalogues noticed in 1881.

Comparing ourselves now for a moment not with ourselves but with other publications professing to devote particular attention to library matters, I think it will be admitted not only that there is room for a special organ for the purpose of providing such information, but also that the "Monthly Notes," considering the means at our disposal, have been fairly successful in supplying this information.

To extend the calculation over a whole year would be too tedious a plan in this case, and I have only troubled myself to examine the numbers of the *Academy* and *Athenæum*, and the *Bibliographer*, for the period corresponding with our number for last October. I find that of the 30 Notes, in addition to Notices of 3 Catalogues and 9 Reports, which appeared in the "Notes," only 2 had been represented by anything in the *Academy* and *Athenæum together*, while in the *Bibliographer*, which as you are aware has a special column headed "Libraries," only 2 were represented, though it is true there were 7 paragraphs of library news, 5 of which however were late and corresponded to paragraphs in previous numbers of *Monthly Notes*.

Now it is not for me of course to speak too confidently as to the interest and value of these miscellaneous paragraphs, although as I am indebted for them or for the information they contain to many of our members, it would not be so improper for me to do so as it might at first appear. However, I will speak only of the quantity of matter thus brought together, and submit that it is enough to demonstrate the need for an organ exclusively, or almost exclusively devoted to the collection and publication of library news and the discussion of library matters.

I come now to speak of a subject which has always caused me much anxiety and regret in connexion with our work as an Asso-

ciation. This is the subject of Bibliography. This was included by our original Constitution amongst the main objects which the Association was intended to promote. And it can hardly be denied that the claim of the librarian to rank as a man of letters and a minister of culture must rest not upon his skill in the stowing away of books, or even in the mere cataloguing of them, still less in the facility with which he deals with the issue of them upon a large scale, but upon his knowledge of books and his acquaintance with something more than the labels and numbers upon their backs. The multiplication of books is now proceeding so rapidly, that it must every day become more and more impossible for private students or collectors to cope with it. It is of vital importance for the needs of students and men of letters that there should be a set of men to whom they can look for information on the history of the various books and branches of study with which they are concerned. And such men it must be obvious can only be found in connexion with large collections of literature. The days of amateurishness in bibliography are, or ought to be, over. No one indeed can be expected to cover the whole field in any considerable department of literature or science. But it is still more true that no one unless he has not merely access to a large collection but can also fall back upon its custodian for assistance, can expect to cover satisfactorily even a small portion of it. It should surely be the aim of the librarian to cover as much of it as he can. Knowing that these views of the intimate connexion between librarianship and bibliography are held by our leading librarians, I have naturally attempted to pay as much attention to bibliography as was compatible with the limits placed upon our space. In the year 1882 notices were given of all bibliographical publications of importance, and I am the more entitled to speak freely of the great value and interest of those notices, first, because of the flattering way in which they have been spoken of by others, and secondly, because that department was practically under the management of Mr. Tedder. Unfortunately the space at our disposal was found to be insufficient for the adequate treatment of bibliography, as well as purely library matters, and during the present year I have been obliged with great reluctance to drop these notices.

If I have thus dwelt so long upon the past, it is because this general exposition of the aims and manner in which the "Notes" have been edited sufficiently indicates, I think, the direction in which we should seek to develope the "Monthly Notes" in the coming year.

May I now point out briefly in what way the members may help the future Editor of the "Library Chronicle" in his efforts to make it a credit to the Association, and a fit exponent of the work and aims of our members?

1. In the first place I may urge upon them the great assistance which all librarians can render to the Editor by sending copies of their Reports and Catalogues, or other library publications.

2. It is hardly less important that our members should send early

intelligence of any library events or movements of interest, and copies of local newspapers containing library news.

3. Though these minor contributions will give interest and even value to the "Chronicle," it must be apparent that more extensive communications in the shape of articles will be required to lend it weight; and I should like to urge upon even the busiest of our working members that if he were to write—say one article a year—it would be no very heavy tax upon himself, and a great assistance to the Journal.

4. If the "Chronicle" is to be financially successful, by which I mean that it is not to be too heavy a burden upon the funds arising from members' subscriptions, it will be important to increase our circulation. This may easily be done if our members will see that their libraries subscribe for a copy in addition to the copy which the librarian may receive as a member, and if they also endeavour to secure fresh members or subscribers.

5. Another means of assisting the financial success of the Journal may be found if our members will endeavour to secure the insertion of advertisements on our wrapper, which will obviously be an excellent channel for advertising library appointments, books wanted and other advertisements, which are now sent to some general organ.

I have, as I think it will be admitted, proposed nothing that is not practicable and easily within our reach, if the future editor receives from the members of the Association the co-operation he is entitled to expect. On his behalf, as well as on my own, I invite those who are present and those who will see these words in type, to communicate any suggestions which may occur to them as likely to increase the interest or add to the usefulness of their own organ,

The Library Chronicle.

POSTSCRIPT.

As the arrangements for the publication of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE are not yet completed, and as the first number is not likely to appear before the 1st of February, an account of the January Monthly Meeting is appended to the present number of the NOTES.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE Fourth Monthly Meeting of the Seventh Year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, January 4th, 1884, at 8 P.M., Mr. F. T. Barrett, Librarian, of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen being engaged in library administration, were announced as having joined the Association:—Mr. Frederick Braby, President of F. Braby & Co.'s Library, Ida Wharf, Deptford, S.E.; Mr. James D. Brown, Senior Assistant, Mitchell Library,

Glasgow, reported by Mr. Barrett; and Mr. William Simpson, Librarian, Free Library, Dumbarton, reported by Mr. Barrett.

The following gentlemen who had been duly proposed and elected at the previous Meeting were elected Members of the Association:—Mr. R. S. Faber; Mr. Charles Hindley; and Mr. John Moore, Chairman of the Local Board, Northwich.

The following gentleman was proposed by Mr. Haggerston and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, for election at the next Monthly Meeting: Mr. William Beer, 30, Ashfield Terrace East, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. H. R. Tedder to read a Paper on "*The Free Library Movement in* 1883."

A discussion followed and Mr. E. C. Thomas moved: "That a Committee be appointed to collect information as to the working of the Free Libraries Acts in small places."

The motion was seconded by Mr. Haggerston.

Mr. Overall objected that the motion came within Article 23 of the Constitution, and could not be brought forward.

The Chairman ruled that the motion fell within the provisions of Article 21, and was in order.

Mr. Overall then moved "That the question be adjourned, and a meeting of the Association be called specially to consider this question. The motion was seconded by Mr. Welch, but upon being put was lost by 8 votes to 2. The original motion was then put and carried by 7 votes to 2.

Mr. Overall gave notice that at the next Monthly Meeting he would move that the motion be rescinded.

Mr. Thomas then moved and Mr. Haggerston seconded a motion to the effect that the proposed Committee consist of the following members (with power to add to their number), who have all expressed by letter their willingness to serve on the Committee:—Major W. B. Arnison, Chairman, Free Library, Penrith; J. Ballinger, Librarian, Free Library, Doncaster; J. Bailey, Librarian, Free Library, Smethwick; F. T. Barrett, Librarian, Mitchell Library, Glasgow; Ambrose Berry, North Moor Free Library, Oldham; T. Bonner, Librarian, Free Public Library, Ealing; J. Potter Briscoe, Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Nottingham; J. D. Buckland, Librarian, Free Public Library, Stockport; D. R. Chapman, Librarian, Free Public Library and Museum, Hereford; M. Comerford, Librarian, Free Public Library, Dundalk; A. Cotgreave, Librarian, Free Public Library, Richmond; P. Cowell, Librarian, Free Public Library, Liverpool; B. A. Dromgoole, Member Free Library Committee, St. Helens; G. Easter, Librarian, Free Library, Norwich; J. Elliot, Librarian, Free Library, Wolverhampton; G. B. Finch, Member Free Library Committee, Wigan; J. E. Foster, Member Free Library Committee, Cambridge; D. Geddes, Librarian, Free Library, Blackburn; D. Gorman, Librarian, Free Library, Chesterfield; W. H. Greenhough, Librarian, Free Public Library, Reading; W. J. Haggerston, Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Ald. R. Handley, Chairman, Free Library, Blackpool; J. D.

Jones, Librarian, Free Library, Runcorn; Mr. Lacy, Chairman, Free Public Library, St. Helens; T. Lakin, Librarian, Free Library, Devonport; Alfred Lancaster, Librarian, Free Public Library, St. Helens; Charles Madeley, Librarian, Museum, Warrington; William May, Librarian, Free Library, Birkenhead; Alfred Morgan, Free Library, Walsall; Jas. Needham, Member Free Library Committee, Stockport; The Mayor of Wigan; Mr. John Plant, Librarian, Royal Museum and Library, Salford; T. G. Rylands, Member Museum Committee, Warrington; Samuel Smith, City Librarian, Worcester; W. J. Stewart, Member Free Public Library Committee, Liverpool; C. W. Sutton, Librarian, Free Library, Manchester; John Taylor, City Librarian, Bristol; S. E. Thompson, Librarian, Free Public Library, Swansea; E. Tonks, Member Library Committee, Birmingham Free Libraries; Thos. Wilcock, Librarian, Free Library, Chester; W. H. K. Wright, Public Librarian, Plymouth; J. Yates, Librarian, Public Library, Leeds.

That the following gentlemen (who have agreed to serve) be appointed Secretaries of the Committee:—W. R. Credland, Sub-Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Manchester; T. Formby, Sub-Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Liverpool; G. Wakeling, Sub-Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Birmingham.

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On a Sun Gauge; (in Philosophical Magazine, vol. XIV, pp. 351-356).

Comparison of the Land and Railway Policy of New South Wales. The Public Lands of New South Wales. (Articles in the *Empire* newspaper, 7th April and 23rd June), *Sydney, New South Wales.*

1858.

On the forms of Clouds, (Phil. Mag. vol. XV, pp. 241-255).

1859.

On the semi-diurnal Oscillation of the Barometer, (in Phil. Mag. vol. XVII, pp. 313-323).

Some data concerning the Climate of Australia and New Zealand. By W. S. Jevons, (Lately) Assayer in the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint, pp. 47-98. Chap. I. Temperature of Air in Australasia. II. Rain in Australia. III. History of Floods and Droughts of New South Wales. IV. Periodicity of Floods and Droughts discussed. V. Water Courses of Australia. VI. The Barometer. VII. Concluding Remarks. 8vo. ["Some conclusions in this chapter are derived from a descriptive detail of the winds of Australia, which had to be omitted from this paper on account of want of space."]

Mr. Jevons's Meteorological readings at Sydney were published weekly in the *Empire* newspaper, July 1855, to 1858, and monthly in the *Sydney Mag. of Science and Art*, May 1857, to June 1858.

1861.

On the Deficiency of Rain in an elevated Rain-Gauge, as caused by Wind. (Brit. Ass. Rep. part 2, p. 62; *Philosophical Magazine*, 22, pp. 421-433).

1862.

Diagram, showing all the Weekly Accounts of the Bank of England, since the passing of the Bank Act of 1844, with the Amount of Bank of England, Private, and Joint Stock Bank Promissory Notes in Circulation during each week, and the Bank Minimum Rate of Discount. London, sheet 20 by 30 inches, *coloured.*

This diagram represents to the eye all the useful results of tables, containing about 113,000 figures.

Diagram, showing the Price of the English Funds, the Price of Wheat, the Number of Bankruptcies, and the Rate of Discount, Monthly, since 1731; so far as the same have been ascertained. London, sheet 20 by 30 inches, *coloured.*

This diagram is drawn from tables carefully compiled for the purpose, and containing more than 12,000 figures. Explanatory Notes and references are appended to each diagram.

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1863.

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1864.

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1865.

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On the Variation of Prices, and the Value of the Currency since 1782. Paper read before the London Statistical Society, May, 1865. (Journal of the Statistical Society, vol. XXVIII, pp. 294-320), with four diagrams.

1866.

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1867.

Science Lectures for the People; Lecture IX, On Coal: its Importance in Manufactures and Trade. Delivered in the Carpenter's Hall, Manchester, January 16, 1867. (Science Lectures, vol. I, pp. 128-140).

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Probable duration of South Staffordshire Coal Field (*Geological Magazine*) vol. IV, p. 263.

1868.

Remarks on Mr. Baxendell's Laws of Atmospheric Ozone (in Proc. Lit. and Phil. Manch. vol. VIII, p. 33).

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1869.

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1870.

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John Stuart Mill's Philosophy tested, I. (Contemporary Review, December, vol. XXXI, pp. 167-182).

1878.

John Stuart Mill's Philosophy tested, II. and III. (Contemporary Review, January and April, vol. XXXI, pp. 256-275; vol. XXXII, pp. 88-99).

On the Movement of Microscopic Particles suspended in Liquids. Reprinted from the Quarterly Journal of Science, April 1878. *Lond.* 1878, 8vo, pp. 22.

Money, and the Mechanism of Exchange. (*London, C. Kegan, Paul & Co.* Fourth edition).

Science Primers. Political Economy. Second Edition, 1878 (*Macmillan & Co.*) 12mo.

Science Primers. Logic, with illustrations. New Edition. (*London, Macmillan & Co.*)

Science Primers. Primer of Political Economy, *London, Macmillan and Co.* 18mo. 134 pp.

The Periodicity of Commercial Crises, and its Physical Explanation. Paper read before the F. Section of the British Association at the Dublin Meeting, August 19. (Report: Transactions of Section F. p. 666. Published in the Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland, August, 1878, vol. VII, pp. 334-342.)

Remarks on the Statistical Use of the Arithmometer. (Journal of the Statistical Society of London, December, vol. XLI, pp. 597-611).

Pedetic Action of Soap (Nature, vol. XVIII, p. 440).

Commercial Crises and Sunspots. (Article printed in Nature of November 14, vol. XIX, pp. 33-37).

L'Économie Politique, traduite par Henry Gravez, Ingénieur, *Paris, Librairie Germer Baillière et C^ie^* (Bibliothèque Utile, vol. XLIV), 18mo. 184 pp.

Manuali Hoepli. Logica di W. Stanley Jevons, traduzione di Di-Giorgio, *Milano*, 1878, 12mo.

1879.

The Theory of Political Economy. Second Edition. *London, Macmillan and Co.* 1879

A State Parcel Post (Contemporary Review of January, vol. XXXIV, pp. 209-29).

Commercial Crises and Sunspots (Nature, XIX, 33, 588).

Sunspots and the Plague (*ibid*, 338).

Elementary Lessons in Logic. Seventh Edition. (*London, Macmillan & Co.*)

1880.

Postal Notes, Money Orders and Bank Cheques. (Contemporary Review, vol. XXXVIII, pp. 150-161).

Experimental Legislation and the Drink Traffic. (Contemporary Review, vol. XXXVII, pp. 177-192).

Studies in Deductive Logic. A Manual for Students, *Macmillan and Co.* 8vo.

Guide to the Study of Political Economy, by Dr. Luigi Cossa, with a Preface by W. Stanley Jevons, F.R.S. *Macmillan and Co.* 8vo.

1881.

Symbolic Logic (Nature, vol. XXIV, p. 233).

Rationale of Free Public Libraries. (Contemporary Review, March, vol. XXXIX, pp. 385-402).

Richard Cantillon and the Nationality of Political Economy (Contemporary Review, vol. XXXIX, p. 61.)

Bi-metallism (Contemporary Review, vol. XXXIX, p. 750).

1882.

The Invention of Paper Money (Letter to *Manchester Guardian*, June 14, 1882).

Married Women in Factories. (Contemporary Review, vol. XLI, p. 37).

The State in relation to Labour. *London: Macmillan & Co.*

List of Selected Books in Political Economy. (Monthly Notes of Library Association, July 1882, p. 105).

The proof-sheets of this paper were returned with corrections from Bexhill, where he met his untimely death. A reference in the report of the Council of the Library Association to this sad event, will be found in the August Number of *Monthly Notes* for 1882, p. 126.

Reflected Rainbows. (*Field Naturalist*, p. 64).

[POSTHUMOUS.]

Methods of Social Reform and other Papers. *London, Macmillan & Co.* 8vo, 383 pp.

Contents: Amusements of the People. The Rationale of Free Public Libraries. The Use and Abuse of Museums. "Cram." Trades' Societies: their Objects and Policy. On Industrial Partnerships. Married Women in Factories. Manchester Statistical Society—Inaugural Address. British Association Opening Address as President of Section F (Economic Science and Statistics). Cruelty to Animals—A Study in Sociology. On the United Kingdom Alliance, and its Prospects of Success. Experimental Legislation and the Drink Traffic. On the Analogy between the Post Office, Telegraphs, and other Systems of Conveyance of the United Kingdom, as regards Government Control. The Post Office Telegraphs, and their Financial Results. Postal Notes, Money Orders and Bank Cheques. A State Parcel Post. The Railways and the State.

*** The above list is not quite complete, though it probably includes all the most important works of Prof. Jevons. No attempt has been made to register the reviews which he wrote for the *Academy* and other papers, nor have his anonymous writings in the *Spectator* and other periodicals been included. A volume of his papers relating to the Currency, is understood to be in preparation by one of his friends and pupils. A biography of him from the pen of Professor A. W. Ward of Owen's College has been announced. The object of this paper is purely bibliographical, and although the memory of many years of friendly intercourse might tempt him aside, the writer feels that this is neither the time nor place in which to speak of the loss to the world by his death, nor to endeavour to express the feelings of those who have to lament not only the ripe scholar and profound thinker, but the pleasant companion and the sincere friend. WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BIRKENHEAD FREE LIBRARY—We are pleased to hear that the choice of the Library Committee for the post of Librarian, vacant through the death of our late member Mr. Hinton, has fallen upon Mr. William May, the principal Cataloguing Assistant at the Free Library, Liverpool, who is so well and favourably known to most of our members, through his efforts in connection with the much appreciated Exhibition of Library Appliances, &c. at the late Congress there, and for his able labours in the compilation of the large Catalogue published in 1880. Mr. May has been connected with the Liverpool Free Library from early boyhood, and carries with him the good-will and esteem of all his colleagues. During his long service he has developed a special aptitude for bibliographic and literary

research, which with his energy and experience, must render him emphatically the right man in the right place in his new position. There were we understand 116 applicants for the post. Mr. May's appointment is of course subject to the approval of the Town Council.

BIRMINGHAM.—On November 16th, Sir Stafford Northcote as President of the Birmingham Union of Suburban Institutes, delivered an address to a crowded audience in the Birmingham Town Hall. The address was a plea for the study of literature for its own sake.

CAMBUSLANG.—On November 16th a large meeting of rate-payers was held in the Parish Church "in pursuance of a requisition," to consider the desirability of adopting the Public Libraries Acts. A motion in favour of adopting them having been proposed, an amendment was moved and declared carried by 211 votes against 177 in favour of adopting the Acts. This disposes of the question for two years.

DUBLIN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—The first Meeting of the Public Libraries Committee has been held at the City Hall, when the Right Hon. The Lord Mayor was elected Chairman, and Councillor Alfred Webb, Vice-Chairman. The committee proceeded to consider the suggestions put forward at recent public meetings in favour of establishing at first only one library, and placing it in the neighbourhood of Grafton Street, rather than opening two district libraries, one in Capel Street and one in Thomas Street. It was pointed out that persons are now freely admitted to the National Library, Kildare Street, on the written recommendation of any respectable householder; and having regard to this, and to the cost of maintaining district libraries elsewhere, the committee decided to recommend the Municipal Council to proceed with the establishment of the proposed lending libraries and reading rooms in Capel Street and Thomas Street. A sub-committee was appointed to consider the question of structural alterations, and to make arrangements for taking up the loans required to put the scheme in operation. To the committee named to select books the following names were added:—Rev. J. O'Hanlon and Rev. M. Close for History and Biography, Sir Robert Stewart for Music, Dr. Ingram for General History, Councillor Doherty, C.E., for Mechanical Arts, Mr. M'Cormack and Mr. Brophy for Technical Industries, Rev. Dr. Haughton for Science, and A. J. Mayne, R.H.A., for Art.

LEICESTER. It is announced that the Leicester Corporation intend to promote a Bill in the next Session of Parliament, to enable them to levy a rate of twopence in the pound, for the support of the Free Library and Museum, and also of a proposed Art Gallery. This rate is estimated to produce about £3,500 per annum. Already a considerable number of valuable pictures have been presented to the Art Gallery, and the Town Museum is undergoing a complete reconstruction and re-arrangement, which will place it in the first rank of provincial museums. The antiquities for which Leicester is famed,

have been placed in a handsomely arranged room; while the Roman columns and the celebrated mile-stone of Hadrian's reign, marking the Roman occupation of Leicester by the Romans, with some handsome tesselated pavements, have been placed in a lantern-roofed annexe. In the great zoological room, which is 80 ft. long, 40 ft. broad, and 25 ft. high, a striking feature has been introduced in the pictorial representation of the fauna, with a view to showing their habits and natural surroundings. So far the work has been carried out with complete success, under the superintendence of Mr. Montagu Brown, F.L.S., the curator.

LIVERPOOL.—The meetings of the Library Literary Society in connection with the Free Library are still continued, the third Session being so far as it has gone quite as successful as the two preceding, which were held under the presidency of Mr. Cowell, the Chief Librarian, Mr. Formby, the Sub-librarian, being the President for the present Session. The following is a list of the Papers read, apart from several interesting Debates and Discussions which have taken place—

First Session, 16*th Dec.* 1881.—Inaugural Address, Mr. Cowell (President); Wm. Roscoe, Historian and Poet, Mr. J. A. Stephens; A few Facts concerning Shakespeare, Mr. G. Reed; Was Gutenberg the Inventor of Typography? Mr. H. E. Curran; a Sketch of the Life of Charles Dickens, Mr. W. Huntley.

Second Session.—Thoughts and Reflections: a Retrospect and a Criticism upon the First Session of our Society, Mr. Cowell (President); Style *versus* Manner, Mr. W. May; Library Pests, Mr. J. H. Quinn; Classification and some of its Systems, Mr. W. May; On Fiction in Free Libraries, Mr. H. Burns; Municipal Corporations and the Free Libraries Acts, Mr. Formby; A Short Study of Carlyle, Mr. Stephens.

Third Session. — Inaugural Address, Mr. Formby (President); Books (a Paper), Mr. Formby (President); the Essayists' Period of English Literature and its Influence on the Literary Criticism of the last Quarter of a Century, Mr. W. May; Notes on Branch Lending Libraries and News Rooms, Mr. W. Huntley.

LONDON: BATTERSEA.—The result of the poll on the question of adopting the Libraries Acts in Battersea must have been a great disappointment to the supporters of the movement, after a committee had carried on the campaign for several months, had held many public meetings (at which the feeling of the ratepayers appeared to be strongly in favour of the proposal), and distributed 10,000 copies of a scheme showing what could be done with a halfpenny rate. Less than 600 persons took the trouble to vote out of a population said to be 120,000. The numbers were for the Acts 253, against 333; majority against 80.

LONDON: BIRKBECK INSTITUTION.—Lord Carlingford presided on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary and Distribution of Prizes at this Institution on Nov. 23. Hopes were expressed by the Chairman and other speakers that the new buildings would, before that

day next year, be free from incumbrance, and that a generous response would be made by the public to the appeal for the £6000. necessary for that purpose.

LONDON: GRAY'S INN.—In order to meet the increasing requirements of the Society of Gray's Inn in respect of library accommodation, the Benchers have decided upon extending their premises by the addition of a wing adjacent to their present East Library. The eastern frontage of the new building will abut on Gray's Inn Road, now in course of being widened, and the elevation designed for it will make the building an important addition to that improved thoroughfare. The plans have been prepared by Messrs. Isaacs and Florence, the Society's Architects, and harmonize in style with the older parts of the Inn, and the work will be commenced forthwith.

LONDON: WESTMINSTER.—The Rev. H. A. Cotton, minor Canon, has been appointed librarian of the Library of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. Mr. Cotton is now occupied upon a report on the state of the Collection, with a view to its entire reorganization.

METROPOLITAN FREE LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association body was held at the rooms of the National Rifle Association, 12, Pall Mall East, on Thursday, December 6. Mr. E. J. Watherston was called to the Chair, and in the course of his address drew attention to the great advantages of public libraries, and to the progress the Association was able to point out in the suburbs and outskirts of the Metropolis. If the necessary funds were forthcoming the Association would be able to hold meetings at frequent intervals, in order to enlist the sympathy and support of the working classes in more central parts of London. The Association had been of great assistance on many occasions in supplying authentic information on the subject. Mr. R. Harrison in contrasting the position of London with that of Liverpool observed, that the poverty of the Metropolis in the matter of Public Libraries was a blot upon the enterprise and intelligence of its citizens.

The Honorary Secretary (Mr. H. R. Tedder) said that all their members would regret the loss sustained by the death of their late Vice-President, Mr. W. Spottiswoode. After the despatch of some formal business, Mr. Tedder read a Report on the present position of the Public Library movement. Including those Libraries established under private Acts of Parliament, about 113 towns in the United Kingdom had adopted the Public Libraries Acts. The first was opened thirty-one years ago, and in twenty years the Acts had been adopted by 45 places. As during the last ten years no less than 68 additional localities had adopted the Acts, this sign of accelerated progress was one to be rejoiced at. Every Provincial Town in England of more than 100,000 inhabitants, except Hull, had adopted the Acts. Apart from London, there were in England and Wales 63 towns of over 40,000 inhabitants apiece, with a population altogether amounting to 6,483,874. Forty-six of these towns had already adopted the Acts, and since they were the most populous of the great towns, over five millions of the urban population of

England and Wales enjoyed the benefits of Public Libraries, supported by themselves and managed by themselves. More than three-fourths of these Libraries were owned by the great industrial centres, and it was among them that might be seen the most extensive and most successful libraries in the country. The working and intelligent classes strongly supported the spread of Free Libraries, while as a natural consequence the idle classes of all ranks strove to hinder them. The Association watched, with much anxiety, the efforts now being made at Battersea. In other parts of the country there was ample cause for satisfaction.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

ST. HELENS.—On the 23rd November Mr. Formby, of the Liverpool Free Library, read a Paper on "Books" before the Literary Section of the Association for the Pursuit of Science, in their rooms, Salisbury Street.

Our honorary member, Count Ugo Balzani, who is at present living at Oxford, has brought out a translation of his very interesting English work on the Italian Chronicles published last year by the S. P. C. K. which contains so much bibliographical information on a peculiarly difficult branch of history. The Italian edition contains much new matter. The title is "Le cronache Italiane nel mediævo descritte da Ugo Balzani" (Milano: U. Hochli, 1884. sm. 8vo, pp. xi, 310.)

Señor Diaz y Perez is contributing to the *Revista Contemporanea* a series of Articles entitled "Las Bibliotecas en España," of which we hope to give our readers some account when the series is completed.

The August number of *Symons's Monthly Meteorological Magazine* contains a notice of Dr. Hellmann's *Repertorium der deutschen Meteorologie* (Leip., Engelmann: 1883). Dr. Hellmann's book, a large octavo of over five hundred pages is said to be not only a bibliography, but very much besides "a work without parallel or precedent in our branch of science."

The January number of *The Sugar Cane*, a Monthly Magazine published at Manchester, is to contain the commencement of a "Bibliography of Sugar." The titles will be arranged in three divisions:—I. Books printed prior to the Nineteenth Century. II. Those printed during the first fifty years of this century. III. Those printed subsequently.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Aston Manor Public Library. Catalogue of the Books in the Reference Department; compiled by Robert K. Dent, Librarian, Aston, 1883. 8vo, pp. iii, 99, half bound

A very carefully prepared Catalogue on the dictionary plan. The abbreviations used are printed at the foot of each page. The contents of collected Works, &c. are set out, as also the portraits in illustrated works. It is printed in double column and is in small type.

Canterbury. Report of the Museum Committee for the year ending November, 1883 [dated 1 November, 1883] s. sh. folio.

The Committee report that 16,753 persons visited the Museum during the year, and that there has been great increase in the number of visitors to the Reading Rooms. The number of volumes issued to borrowers from this Library was 2,454 as against 1,200 in the previous year. Considerable additions have been made to the Museum and Library, and the Committee have printed a new classified Catalogue "in place of the one complained of." The financial condition of the institution is satisfactory.

Clitheroe Free Library. Fifth Annual Report, 1882-3. Presented to the Town Council, 9th November, 1883. 4to, pp. 3.

The Committee report that the institution is steadily increasing in usefulness and popularity. The Library has been open 106 nights during the year, and the issues were 14,107. The volumes added to the Library numbered 188. The number of borrowers now on the books is 1,006. The total expenditure for the year was £79. 9s. 2d.

Borough of Leamington Free Public Library Annual Report, 1882-3. Presented to the Town Council, November, 1883. 4to, pp. 4.

The additions to the Library numbered 509, of which 198 vols. were presented, making the stock now in the Library 12,480 vols. The issues from the Lending Library were 43,421,—a decrease on the previous year of 2,069; the volumes used in the Reference Library numbering 4,704, a decrease of 902. The Committee estimate that the total number of persons visiting the Library "reaches the astounding total of 195,000 in the year." The income was £544. 11s. 6d. of which the rate for the year produced £529. 18s. 10d. The Committee regret that they can spend so little upon books.

CORRESPONDENCE.

In the *St. James's Gazette* of the 14th inst., there appears the following paragraph:—

The Library Association must be rather hard up for subjects when it calls upon Mr. Borrajo to read a Paper on "Porson as a Librarian." The communication bears some analogy to the famous chapter on snakes in Iceland. Porson was indeed librarian of the London Institution from 1806 to 1808, but his notion of a librarian's duties seems to have been limited to the inscribing of sarcastic comments on the fly-leaves of a few volumes. Wide as was his reading, he does not seem to have "left any lasting impression of his work" in the library; he neither added to its collection, catalogued its volumes, or even vouchsafed the favour of his personal presence very often. The managers told him that "they only knew him to be their librarian by seeing his name attached to the receipts for his salary"; and Porson concluded that the managers were "mercantile and mean beyond merchandise and meanness." Our standard of library work has changed since Porson's days. We used to seek a scholar and man of culture: now we look for a business-like clerk. The latter is necessary in his way; but critics like Porson are worth a wilderness of clerks on occasion. What is really wanted in a great library is both the scholar and the clerk; but this conjunction is at present "sadly to seek."

Under the impression that even so very superior a journal as the *St. James's Gazette* might admit a correction on a point of fact, I directed the following letter to its Editor:—

To the Editor of the "St. James's Gazette."

SIR,—My attention has only just been called to a paragraph in your issue of Friday last, commenting upon a paper on "Porson as a librarian," which I have had the honour of reading before the Library Association. I desire to point

out that I alone am responsible for the subject and its treatment,—and it is obvious that the Library Association cannot judge of the merits of a paper offered to it before that paper has been read. Of the short-comings of my paper none is better aware than myself, but that the subject is so totally destitute of interest for practical librarians as the writer of the paragraph seems to imply is, I think, negatived by the short but interesting discussion which followed the reading of the paper.

I must protest against the disingenuous manner in which I am, by implication, credited with the opinion that a business-like clerk makes a better librarian than a great scholar and critic like Porson. I doubt whether anyone could hold a theory so absurd and monstrous, and I most certainly propounded nothing of the kind. In conclusion I would add that the combination of scholarly tastes with business habits, is not so rare a gift as your contributor imagines.

Trusting to your sense of fairness to find space for this letter in your next issue,

I am, yours obediently,
EDWARD M. BORRAJO.

Neither was this letter inserted, nor any notice taken of it. I regret that I should have so misjudged the *St. James's Gazette*, as to think there existed in its Editor's room a sense of either fairness, or ordinary courtesy. Under the peculiar circumstances of this case may I ask you to find room for this letter, in order that it may be seen that the mistakes which I sought to correct were made, not accidentally but intentionally?

EDWARD M. BORRAJO.

22, Haverstock Hill, N.W.

DISFIGURING BOOKS.

With reference to the comments on "Disfiguring Books" in the last "Monthly Notes," I should like to call your attention to the numerous pamphlets, &c. sent out to libraries and private individuals, which reach their destination in an irrecoverably damaged state, owing entirely to the bad method adopted by the senders in preparing them for the post. Many of the valuable presentations made from time to time to this Library have reached here in a partly spoiled condition from this cause. Why should any book, or any pamphlet which is ultimately to form part of a bound volume, be folded up just as it comes wet from the press, and be so tumbled and creased that it can never come smooth in any ordinary process of binding? Could not some plan be devised for delivering publications in a flat state? My copy of "Monthly Notes," just received, is by no means an exceptional instance. In this Library there are two bound volumes of "Monthly Notes" containing scarcely one leaf which is not disfigured and deteriorated by a deep crease from top to bottom, caused by sending them doubled up, when damp, through the post.

I remain, yours faithfully,
THOMAS W. NEWTON.

Library,
Museum of Practical Geology, S.W.
Dec. 5, 1883.

LONDON: *Printed and Sold for the Association by* J. DAVY & SONS, *Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre.*

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

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(*Corrected to 5th January*, 1883).

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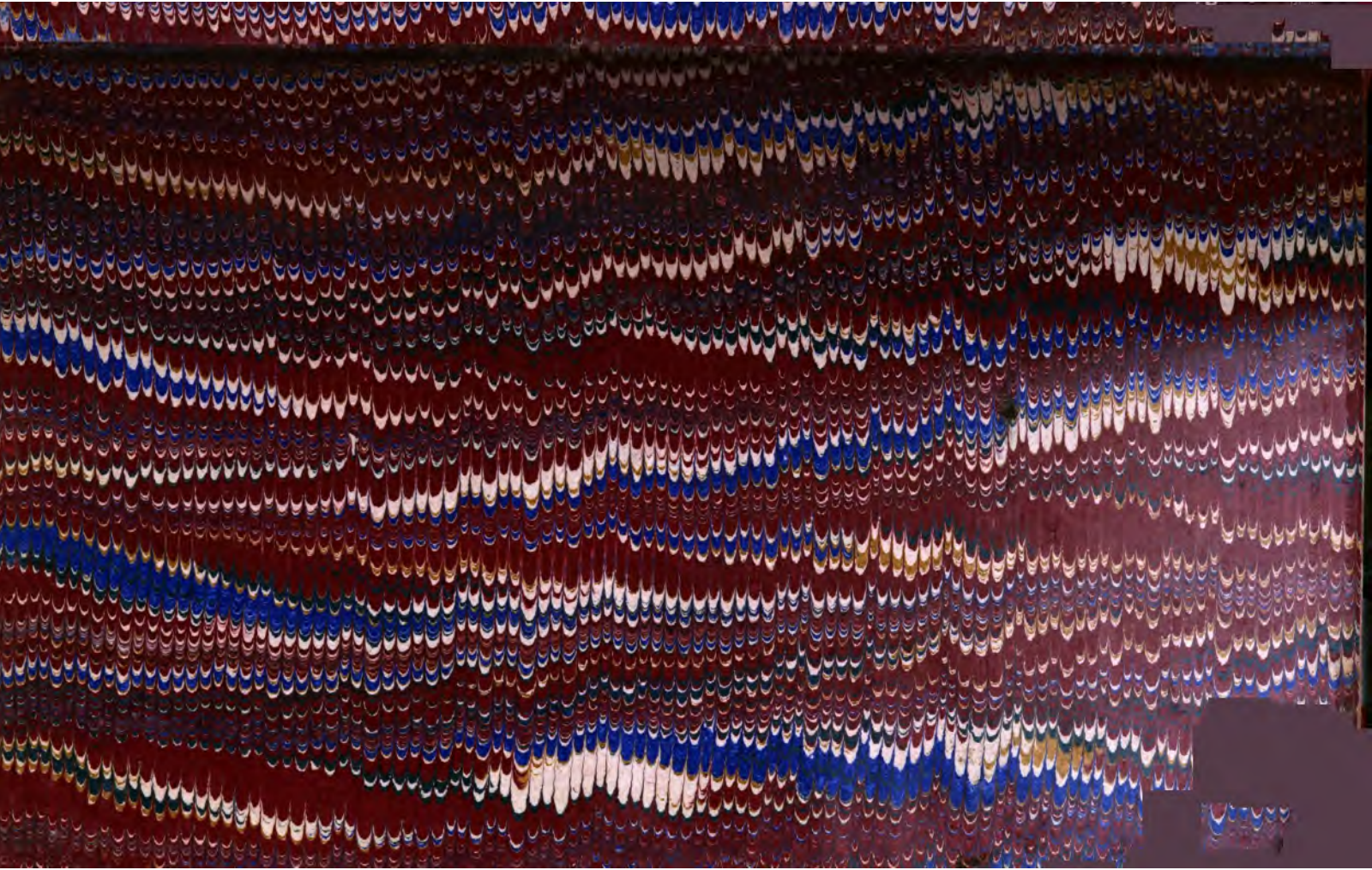

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